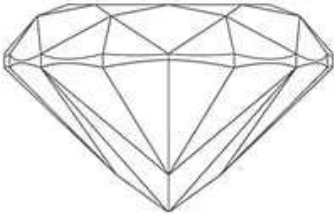
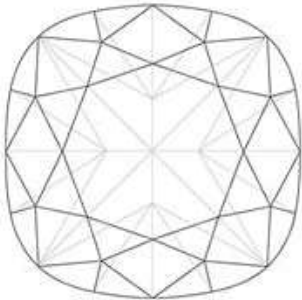

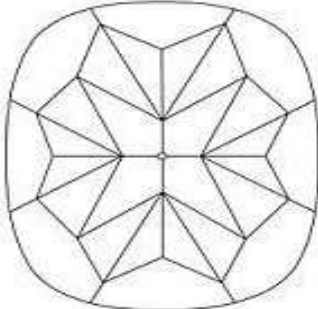



Warning: this version was completed with Google Translate, for sure

Cushion cut

| Side photo | From the crown | From the pavilion | |
|---|--|---|----------------------|
|  |   |   | |
| Year of creation | In the eighteenth century | Type of cut | A brilliant (modern) |
| Number of facets | Total 58-64 (standard) | Top 25-31 | Bottom 33 |
| Characteristics general | <p>Modern cushion diamond cutters are essentially round diamonds with a cushion-like shape. Their pinna facets open from the apex and extend to the girdle in a star-like manner. An ideal stone in this style satisfies, according to some (there are no universally valid parameters for all) the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the table exceeds 53% - the crown angle is greater than 40° - the bottom halves are 60% or less - the apex is slightly large <p>The "Modified Cushion" combines brightly cut facets with a cushion-shaped contour and soft, rounded corners. Modified pillows have excessive shine without contrast, giving them a "shaved ice" look. Some facets end below the waist. Where the facets meet, they form bulges that complicate ring construction and carry dead weight.</p> | | |
| History | <p>Classic (antique) cushions are rare, timeless and sophisticated jewels. In the trade, they are known as Old Miners. The high-contrast faceting of the antique pillow mutes color perception, so they appear whiter than their modern counterparts. Antique Cushion's premium mix of fragmented brilliance and extreme dispersion is also unparalleled.</p> <p>Here is a brief history/ Mid 17th century : introduction of the Peruzzi and Mazarino cuts, precursors of the round brilliant cut, but also of the cushion style. 1700-1750 : Diamonds are cut into square or rectangular shapes with rounded corners, called "cushion cut" or "candlelight cut". 1750-1800 : The cushion cut becomes more popular, but the stones are often cut irregularly and with visible inclusions.</p> | | |

The "old mine" cut was introduced (a name assumed in subsequent centuries to connect it to the stones coming from Brazil, the "old" deposits compared to the African ones discovered in the second half of the nineteenth century).

The **cushion cut and the old mine cut** are two forms of cutting for diamonds that have some similarities and some differences.

Similarities

Both shapes are square or rectangular with rounded corners.

Both shapes are available in a variety of sizes and carats.

Both shapes are popular for engagement rings and other jewelry.

Differences

Pillow cut (TC) has larger facets and fewer total facets than old mine cut (VM).

The TC has a more rounded shape than the VM.

The TC tends to be brighter and more sparkling than the VM cut.

The old mine cut tends to show more color than the TC.

The TC has a rounder shape than the VM. The facets are larger and more rounded, which creates a more modern and shiny look. The VM has a more square or rectangular shape, with smaller, more angular facets. This creates a more classic and traditional look. In terms of brightness, TC tends to be brighter than VM. This is because larger, more rounded facets reflect more light. VM tends to show more color, as smaller facets can reveal color inclusions.

1800-1850 : Diamond cutters perfected the technique by reducing imperfections in both the shape and clarity of the stones.

1850-1900 : TC becomes one of the most common cuts for diamonds of a certain value. However, it is flanked by gems cut in an "old European" style, but also by other shapes such as heart, oval, etc.

1900-1950 : The cushion cut reached its peak during the Edwardian period (1901-1910), when it was the preferred cut for diamonds and other precious stones, however it was gradually replaced by the round brilliant cut starting from the 1950s.

1950-2000 : TC is overshadowed by new and innovative styles, such as those obtained by LASER cutting, after the 1960s-70s.

2000-present : TC continues to be relatively popular especially for those who appreciate classic or retro tastes.

Other names :

In English : cushion cut

Faceting process

The cushion cut of gemstones is a type of cut that has a square or rectangular shape with rounded corners, similar to the shape of a cushion. This cut can be made in different ways, such as brilliant, stepped or mixed, and usually has **58 to 64 facets** . The upper part of the stone can have from 4 to 8 facets, while the lower part can have from 4 to 8, depending on the type of cut chosen. The cushion cut faceting process requires great skill and precision on the part of the gem cutter. The stone is first cut into a square or rectangular shape with rounded corners, then a table, which is a large flat facet, is created on the top of the stone. Next, the gem cutter creates the crown facets, which are the facets on the top of the stone, and finally the pavilion facets, which are the ones on the bottom of the stone. Weight retention depends on the stone used and the gem cutter's preferences.

Traditional cushion cut diamonds reflect light in **a more massive pattern than modern cuts** . This, combined with the enlarged apex (which was considered desirable for the pattern created when viewed through the table), helped to create, over time, a distinctive look that is highly prized

today by antique diamond dealers, but which appears to be It has also been rediscovered by a wider range of appreciators. Based partially on cutting research initiated by Marcel Tolkowsky in the 1920s, **refinements made to cushion-cut diamonds in recent decades** (such as reducing the apex, widening the table, and improving cut angles to increase the brilliance) have led to a resurgence in popularity. Many buyers are attracted by the antique feel combined with the modern performance offered by the cushion cut.

Standards for cushion cuts vary more than they do for most other shapes, and your choice will be dictated by personal taste. While generally less brilliant than round brilliant-cut diamonds, cushion-cut diamonds often feature greater fire dispersion, which is part of their appeal. Modern cushion cuts tend to follow one of three basic pavilion facet patterns (see image). The third pattern has an extra row of facets on the pavilion and is classified by the GIA as a "modified cushion cut". These modified cuts tend to feature a "shaved ice" type facet pattern or similar to a radiant cut more than a traditional cushion cut.

Variations : The classic cut for cushion-shaped diamonds is a square (with a **length-to-width ratio of 1.00**), but slightly rectangular shapes are often found as well. The most popular shape is a lightweight rectangle with a length-to-width ratio between **1.10 and 1.20**, but your choice should depend on personal preference. Each Lumera diamond includes precise measurements and length-to-width ratio, so you know the exact shape of the cushion-shaped diamond you're considering. The cushion cut is still very popular in the gemstone market, especially for **diamonds, sapphires and rubies** . Its popularity is due to its elegance and vintage look. According to some experts in the sector, the cushion cut represents approximately **10 - 20% of the cut precious stones in the world** (although it is practically impossible to establish).

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Weight retention | 50-70% | Popularity (markets) % | Around 1% (difficult to estimate) |
| Famous stones: | <p>The Hope Diamond - Presented as a gift to the Smithsonian Institution by Harry Winston in 1958, the 45.52-carat Hope Diamond originates in India. It is currently the most visited attraction at the Smithsonian Institution. The Hope Diamond boasts a fascinating history, having passed through the hands of French nobility and American socialites over the years, but it also carries the infamous reputation of being cursed.</p> <p>The Regent Diamond - Legend has it that this 410-carat diamond was first owned by a slave in the Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh, India, in 1698. According to the tale, it was later stolen by an English sea captain.</p> <p>Tiffany Yellow Diamond - Weighing a remarkable 128.54 carats, this yellow cushion-cut diamond is one of the largest colored diamonds ever discovered. Audrey Hepburn wore it while promoting the 1961 film "Breakfast at Tiffany's", becoming one of only two women to have had that honor.</p> | | |