

INTRIGUING FACTS ON DIAMONDS

A. 1 billion tons need to be mined in order to get 1.0 carat of diamond

B. Only 20% of diamonds are gem quality, the rest are used for industrial or technical purposes (i.e., abrasives). Of these gem quality, only

2% are FLAWLESS.

C. A diamond is a mineral created by nature, millions and in some cases, billions of years ago!

- They formed around 100 miles below the Earth's surface, under immense heat and pressure. Diamonds were pushed up from the Earth's interior by volcanic eruptions.
- They were carried to the surface by volcanic eruptions...just like here in Hawaii.

The Kilauea and Mauna Loa Volcanos on the Big Island!

D. 50% of gem quality diamonds have fluorescence.

- Fluorescent diamonds glow in light that contains high amounts of ultraviolet (UV).
- Standard incandescent bulbs emit no UV, so under these conditions you see only the diamond's body color.
- You might see the fluorescence of the diamond, most common is a blue glow, in the sunshine or under a fluorescent light.

E. Pink, green and blue diamonds are very rare, but red and purple diamonds are extremely rare. The entire world produces only a few thousand carats of fancy color diamonds annually.

- "Fancy" color means a diamond has a color grade darker than "Z" (which is yellow).

F. Placing the ring on the fourth finger of the left hand comes from the Romans. They believed there's a direct connection between that finger and the heart.