

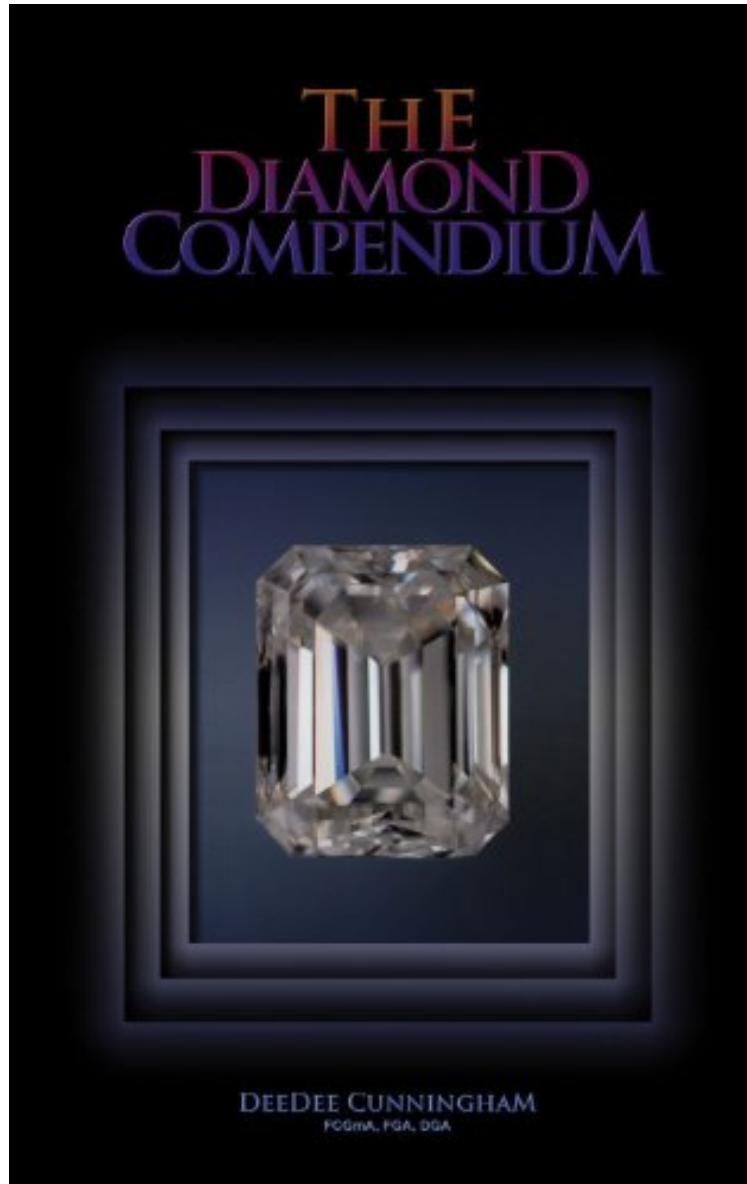
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DeeDee Cunningham

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The Diamond Compendium

DeeDee Cunningham : The Diamond Compendium before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Diamond Compendium:

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helpful. The Rumors are True! This Book is a Gem for Reference AND Book Collectibility! By Rare Book Collector This book is outstanding in every way. All the positive reviews are true. I believe this will become a classic book collector's item and reference work in the gem and jewelry industries... but forget selling it for a profit. You'll want to keep it for a lifetime it's so valuable of a reference work both visually and for its in-depth content. Expensive, I'll concede that, but substantially expensive to produce due to the sheer volume of content (888 pages!) and number of quality photos throughout. So don't expect it to ever get discounted much more than the fifty some dollar price reduction on as of the fall of 2011 (which is a bargain as I paid the full price shown of \$225 when it first hit, yet I still think it was reasonably priced all considered). If it goes even lower grab it, but you might want to consider grabbing it now as the production cost is so high that inflation will make it impractical to reprint in its present pristine form. In that respect the first edition will become a classic collectible I think. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

IMPRESSIVE!!!! A MUST FOR ALL DIAMOND LOVERS AND STUDENTS By Richard C. This is a very impressive work. At first it may seem a little intimidating at 894 pages but clearly the authors intent was not to intimidate but to educate. One also realizes that DeeDee Cunningham is not only a master of diamonds but also a powerful and talented writer. This makes a big difference in the enjoyment of a book, since good information in a dry, dull form can be difficult to read (remember trying to keep your eyes open while reading a dull textbook? even in a subject of interest?). On the other hand, interesting information presented in an organized manner with a natural flow make this book a pleasure to read. The authors ability to make even the complicated aspects of diamond (colored diamonds atomic chemistry for one stand out) seem clear through good solid explanations with proper illustrations makes it a most impressive work. The sheer range of topics covered make it able to take the place of at least a handful of other books and journals which come to mind. Diamond grading is completely covered in four chapters, one on each of the 4 Cs. I can't imagine ever needing to know more than is presented here. The same is true with the crystal section and identification. I have read a couple other books on synthetic diamonds and in the end, obviously whole books are able to have a greater volume of information, but at over 80 pages the chapter on synthetics is for certain the best summary written on the subject. There is no filler just the history, the science, and the facts. I have heard this said about the chapter on diamond manufacturing (cutting) as well. Many of the chapters are really capable of being standalone works. This is a book that has, and will continue to have, a lasting value to me as a reference. It is also a beautiful book visually as well because of the many high quality graphics and photographs.

Sought after, fought over, hoarded, hidden, and stolen diamonds remain one of mankind's greatest obsessions. Diamond represents the most concentrated form of wealth on the planet and the hardest known natural substance. Covering everything from the origin of diamonds and their properties, through mining, the four Cs of grading and marketing, to modern high-tech treatments, fancy colored diamonds, and synthetics, The Diamond Compendium presents the body of diamond knowledge in a simple and understandable way. Written by a diamond expert this book is based on thousands of hours of research with specialists worldwide. Whether you are using this book to learn the facts about purchasing diamonds, understand the trade, prepare for formal examinations, or simply satisfy your curiosity, The Diamond Compendium is the most thorough, absorbing, and comprehensive book on the market.

About the Author DeeDee Cunningham is a holder of professional diamond and gemology diplomas from Great Britain and Canada. Recipient of multiple distinctions, she was awarded the W. Donald Goodger Prize upon graduation from the Canadian Gemological Association in 1995. She lives in Toronto and works with her own company.