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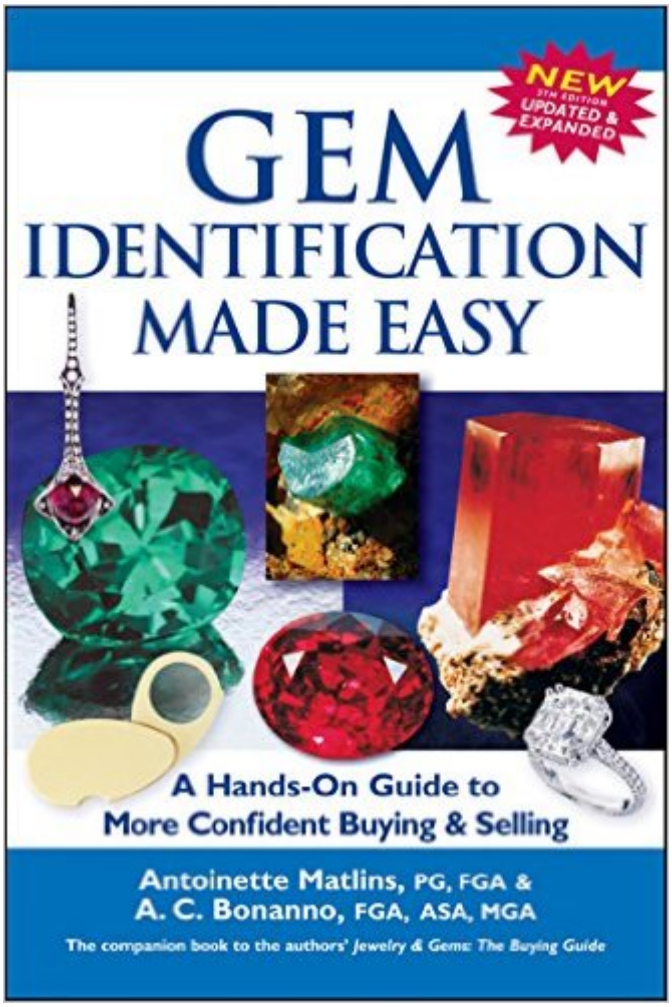
Gem Identification Made Easy 5/E: A Hands-On Guide To More Confident Buying & Selling



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Synopsis

Gem Identification Made Easy is the first and only book that explains in non-technical terms how to identify diamonds and colored gems, and how to separate natural gems from imitations, treated stones, synthetics, and look-alikes. The book’s approach is direct and practical, and its style easy to understand. In fact, with this highly accessible guide, anyone can begin to master gem identification. Includes over 150 photographs and illustrationsover 80 in full color!Using a simple, step-by-step system, the authors explain how to properly use essential but uncomplicated instruments to identify stones, what to look for gemstone by gemstone, and how to set up a basic lab at modest cost. Three of the instruments are inexpensive, portable, pocket instruments that, when used together, can identify almost 85% of all precious and popular stones.The key to avoiding costly mistakes and recognizing profitable opportunities is knowing both what to look for and what to look out for.Gem Identification Made Easy will help you:Open your eyes to the types of treatments, imitations, synthetics, look-alikes, and fakes in the gem market today.Learn how to tell the difference between them. Quickly spot:Synthetics, including synthetic emeralds and diamondsFilled diamondsDiffused "blue" sapphires and "red" rubiesHPHT-treated diamonds... and much more!Determine how to spot the newest "composite" imitations.Learn how to identify recently discovered gems such as â œMandarinâ • garnet, red â œemerald,â • and North Carolina’s chromium-rich emeralds.Discover new treatments such as surface coatings to create â œfancy colorâ • diamonds and improve or change the color of many gemstones.Know when to seek help from a professional gemologist or lab.Become more professional in your business or hobby.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Gem Identification Made Easy" opens up the world of gem identification to the jeweler, hobbyist and the curious. I didn't come away with the impression that gem identification is easy, but that some kinds of identification are easy, inexpensive and FUN! Antoinette Matlins makes it clear that the bar to entry into gemology is low. Practice, diligence, and three small instruments that cost less than $200 will enable you to identify 80% of colored gemstones and their look-alikes as well as diamonds and most of their imitations. Since there are at least 3 different gemstones on the market in every color and no shortage of synthetics and enhancement treatments, the skills within the pages of "Gem Identification Made Easy" are invaluable to anyone shopping for gemstones. If gems fascinate you, this book will help you discover if you would like to pursue gemology as a career or serious hobby.The bulk of "Gem Identification Made Easy" are descriptions of the instruments involved in gem identification, detailed instructions on how to use each, and what they can show you, including many charts which will help you identify stones. The 3 essential instruments that everyone will need are: loupe, Chelsea filter, and dichroscope. The loupe magnifies the stones, revealing inclusions, blemishes, and fillers. The Chelsea filter differentiates between some gems and synthetics. The dichroscope distinguishes single-refracting stones from double-refracting and allows identification of stones by the colors they exhibit. In addition, Ms. Matlins provides instructions for additional tools that one would need to set up a lab: UV lamp, refractometer, microscope. Less essential: spectroscope, polariscope, and immersion cell. For diamonds: SSEF diamond-type spotter and electronic diamond tester.

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