

Tolerances for Weights, Measurements & Grading Standards – listed within your Appraisal Reports/Documents

***** (This is only a preliminary report and listing – Work is still being done) *****

All Professional Appraisers of Gems & Jewelry should list in every report/document the various tolerances that your equipment is capable of achieving and maintaining.

You can list your equipment's tolerances within your report/document in one of several places such as; laboratory equipment listing, limiting conditions, special conditions or critical limiting conditions. It is not advisable to hide these tolerances and/or grading standards in the appendix of your report/document.

As a professional appraiser one must also list and give reference to the various grading systems used by the appraiser and the grading system's nomenclature.

Grading Systems Used For:

Diamond "Cut Grade" Proportional Values and Attributes
Diamond "Color Grade" Body Color Values and Attributes
Diamond "Clarity Grade" Both Internal and External Values and Attributes

Colored Stone "Cut Grade" Proportional Values and Attributes
Colored Stone "Color Grade" Body Color Values and Attributes
Colored Stone "Clarity Grade" Both Internal and External Values and Attributes

One must also give reference to the Controlled and Repeatable Lighting Systems Used for both Diamond Color Grading and Colored Stone Color Grading.

A Professional Gemological Appraiser should also build and maintain a Laboratory Equipment Maintenance, Re-Calibration and Re-Certification Log/Journal for each piece of equipment updated monthly and/or quarterly.

All linear measuring devices should be tested, re-calibrated and re-certified monthly using certified calibration measuring blocks. The easiest way to do this is on the first day of each month. This takes less than One (1) hour to perform these tests and record the results in your Laboratory Equipment Maintenance, Re-Calibration and Re-Certification Log/Journal.

All Grading Lights used within your Laboratory should also be wiped clean of all dust and contaminants and the estimated accumulative number of hours each light was used during the previous month. On & Off Light Cycles should also be noted and recorded.

Light bulb Replacement and proper burn-in procedures should also be performed, recorded and maintained within your Laboratory Equipment Maintenance, Re-Calibration and Re-Certification Log/Journal.

All Scales used for Weighing **MUST BE** State Certified by your State’s Department of Weights & Measurements. All scales **MUST BE** Legal-for-Trade Scales as prescribed by Hand Book 44 codes and requirements.

The Appraiser **MUST HAVE** their eye’s checked Bi-Annually (Once every Two (2) Years) using either the “Farnsworth-Munsell 100 Hue Color Vision Test” and/or the “HRR 4th Edition Pseudoisochromatic Color Vision Screening administered by AGS”

Diamond Plotting:

All diamonds above 0.50cts should be plotted.

However it must be noted that a diamond plot is void and useless unless a Key is provided.

Colored Stone Plotting:

All Major Colored Stones should be plotted.

However it must be noted that a Colored Stone plot is void and useless unless a Key is provided.

However due to the natural evolution of Digital photography and the adaption of digital cameras to microscopes it is now possible to capture high quality high resolution digital images of both diamonds and colored stone inclusions in lieu of plots.

On rare and high value items it would be best to use both methods in your appraisal report.

*****(This work still in progress and not yet completed)*****