

# Princess Mathilde Diamond Princie Diamond Prinz cut profile cut

Contributed by Administrator  
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**Princess Mathilde Diamond.** Mathilde was the cousin of Louis Napoleon (later Napoleon III of France) and hostess for him until his marriage to Eugenie de Montijo; this diamond is thought to have been named for her. Mathilde, who was married to Prince Anatole Demidoff of Russia, had magnificent jewels. Later, the diamond was also said to have belonged to the great collector, Abdul Hamid II, Sultan of Turkey. Still later, in 1933, it was sold to an undisclosed buyer in Paris by the Monte de Piete (National Pawnshop), which described it as "a brilliant of 16.25 carats and of a special shape that closely resembles the hexagonal."

**Princie Diamond.** The Princie Diamond, which apparently has no previously recorded history, is thought to have belonged to the Nizam of Hyderabad at one time. It is a pink, cushion-cut stone of 34.64 carats. In 1960, it was sold at auction by Sotheby's to the London branch of Van Cleef & Arpels for \$128,000 and sent to their Paris store. In the same year, it was christened the Princie at a party in its honor in Paris. Among the guests were the Maharanee of Baroda and her fourteen-year-old son, the prince heir, whose pet family name is "Princie." Van Cleef's believe it to be one of the largest and finest pink diamonds in the world; it is mounted as a pendant and surrounded by large white brilliants on a slender necklace of baguettes.

**Prinz cut.** A small, simple polished 5 faceted octahedron.

**proclaimed area.** A term used in the Republic of South Africa for diamond-bearing claims or land that have been proclaimed by the government-owner for the issuance of digger's licenses. See **deproclaimed**

**AREA, RESTRICTED ALLUVIAL DIGGING.**

**profile cut.** A diamond cut invented in 1961 by Mr. Arpad Nagy, founder of the Diamond Polishing Works in London. The cut makes economical use of flat crystals in order to provide a large surface area of diamond at a low cost. It was initially called the Princess cut. Flat crystals are gang-sawed into parallel plates about 1.5 mm. thick. The plates are then cut into a variety of desired shapes and the top surface polished. A series of narrow parallel grooves are cut on the bottom of each plate which gives the required total internal reflection to make it lively, but it lacks fire. See **PRINCESS CUT.**