



Tube Setting Faceted Stones

TOOLS NEEDED:

High Speed Steel, "Under-Cutting" bur, 90 degree angle.

Pumice wheel #180 Grit

Reciprocating Electric Hammer

Tube Holder (as shown in picture)

On the subject of tube-setting, the very first thing anyone should do is to buy a "Setters Tube Holder" which appears in many tool supply catalogues. I have two of them for easy access.

Expose only the very top of the cullet in this new clamp, you don't want the bottom part to "wander off" center! This "cullet holder" will grip securely and will prevent the sides from collapsing while preparing the item for setting. The clamp holder has seven sizes you pick the chuck that will not let the item move around while being worked on. Insert your jewellery carefully and tighten very securely! Place the diamond on the top and make sure that the stone does not appear to be wider than the frame, if it is, ream the very top part open with an awl.

Now place the diamond on the open bezel and check if there is enough metal protruding around the diamond. Let's start the cutting for the pavillion seat use a #156c under-cutting burr that is about 1/2 to 3/4 size of the desired stone size and make a bearing low enough so that the 'table' of the stone is flush when finished with the top of the bezel...!



Start to make the bearing, with slight increments of cutting, so that it takes about 4-5 series of cuts to make the circle-seat. Once this is accomplished, try and place the diamond into the hole, if not, ream out the top part of the bezel, ONLY! The diamond will NOW should just fall into place inside of the hole and stay in the new made bearing. If it still doesn't, ream it open a tad more, but use a copper stone pusher to locate the stone into the seat.

I usually file on the outside of the wall and around the top, so I won't have too much 'metal' to push over. I usually push the metal with a "thin steel pusher" that is serrated with a front end, so the pusher won't slide off while doing its job and causing damage to the stone. Once this is started, check for any bezel spaces on the CROWN facet. I want all the metal over and absolutely TOUCHING THE STONE.

We are now almost done. Except for filing around the bezel. I will now use a Pumice wheel, of 180 grit and shape the top and sides evenly. I also use a triangle file # 4 cut for this procedure. Now if you want try and use a Right-Sided, Onglette graver or a Flat #39 and cut inside of the metal that is over the stone. It gives a professional look, and it has a clean finished effect!

Please feel free to write to me for more helpful hints!

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