

USFG 2021 Grand Master Cutting Notes



I cut this stone twice. The first time for a client, and sold it before I could take pictures. Both times I experienced the same positive and negative issues. The preform that Jeff Theesfeld put together is a CAM type preform. It worked well for establishing the culet point and the girdle outline. I adjusted the angles in GemRay and Gem Cut Studio to be optimized for quartz, which you are allowed to do as long as it doesn't affect the Plan View.

The first time I cut it, everything went according to plan. The second time, it came off the dop. I could not realign it as well as I hoped and ended up cutting it smaller than expected to get a true-to-design stone.

The Positives

- It's a great classical design that uses the narrow mains common in today's gemstone designs
- The symmetry has a great look and cuts quickly
- Even when I cut it in slightly sleepy lavender quartz, it shows lots of scintillation and looks very bright

The Negatives

- It's in quartz. Quartz is annoying to cut. Polishing is easy, I use super cerium on a Matrix lap by Gearloose
- The table is 0.661 table to width ratio. Too big in my opinion. I like 0.5 and smaller. This might sound like I am overly nitpicking, but the table views big. This is easy to change, but I can't for an official design. I'll change it for the next time I cut this design

In summary, this is a good design. With very few modifications (smaller table), it would be a great design. Eight mains on the crown make for a showy stone and it would be a fantastic piece in any setting.

Jason Delk