

Improved Utopia
by Arya Arkhavan
Modified from "Utopia" by Jeff Graham

This stone as with most pears will give you a challenge, but it is a very obtainable gem. The challenges will be hitting the correct width (where you'll want to put much focus as you preform the gem) and then bringing in the meets well.

For the sample stone I cut aquamarine not CZ as it's what I had handy and made a very sellable gem! I found the stone cut well and I followed the pattern as it was laid out. Pay close attention to girdle width as well so you will be within competition standards.

One thing to watch and plan for is that this stone has a high crown so takes a good amount of material. In cutting the test stone I found out I didn't have enough so I ended up adapting all of the angles which lowered the crown slightly, but still stayed within the plan perspective so if this had been a stone which would be entered it would be within the rules. So if you need to, adapt as you go.

As you cut the width, pay attention to the length of the gem and the W/L ratio. In my past gems submitted I had one where this got off causing a deduction. The width of 12mm is measured from facets at 24 and 72.

Good luck - I expect to see a number of new Master level qualifiers with this gem!
--Dan