

## Malaya Garnet. - Gemstone Cutting



[Malaya Garnet 2.50ct](#)

Hi All, I'm a Gemstone cutter, and here is an article about my latest cut.

Malaya Garnet: The rough, a rather flat, but round, 7 ct piece, looked peachy/pink!, it was loupe clean, which is rather unusual for this material. I thought, wow, this would cut into a super light color, with bright peach colored flashes in it. Nope! A day later, I ended up with a super DEEP Red gemstone, with intense orange flashing! Totally awesome stone, but not what I had expected of the much lighter rough. Almost all garnet, will deepen in color several shades, during the cutting process, but this stone went to an extreme, that I have rarely seen. This African rough is identified by the peach overtones in the rough, peach/red, peach/brown, etc. and is known by several names, Maliaha, Malayha.

Cutting the stone: I used Jeff Grahams' design: Signature #4, which is a nice trillion, 55 facets, added the appropriate cutting angles for Spessartine Garnet, Pavilion - 41%, Crown - 39% and cut away. I used the standard laps 260, 600, 1200 and went to polish on a Ba5t using 100k diamond. I'm a rather slow cutter, as I had about 8 hours total in this stone.

It took about 2 minutes per facet, just to polish, the gemstone, which is about average for me and this kind of material. I didn't really have any problems that I couldn't overcome, I went back a few times to get my meets perfect. I had to realign the angles for the star facets, so that they would be wide enough to touch the corners, which is normal. Most faceters start out with the angles written in the design and then adjust those angles depending on the size of the gemstone.

The end result: with almost a 75% loss in material, good old flat rough! I ended up with a 2.50 carat gemstone. This stone doesn't just have a sprinkling of sparkle to it, but more like, BOLTS of intense orange flashing coming off the stone. I often wonder: why do I sit here, for hours! grinding away at the wheel! and for what! certainly not the pay! Well, this stone answers that question. I love my job! Until the next stone!

I have enclosed a few pictures of the gemstone in: LED Gems

Hope you enjoyed the article and pictures.

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