

# *Guide To Crystal Chandeliers*

## **Types of Crystal**

Crystal may be machine-cut, handcut or molded. A description of crystal types follows:

### **(S)STRASS CRYSTAL : Absolute perfection.**

Considered the finest crystal in the world. Strass is manufactured by Swarovski AG in the Austrian Alps. Strass is an optically pure crystal, clear as spring water, totally free of flaws, unique in purity and brilliance. Strass crystal is characterized by razor-sharp cutting of facets with the lead content in excess of 30 percent. Cutting and polishing are done by machine to achieve perfect optical clarity. Strass crystals are treated with an invisible coating, which eliminates dust attraction and makes it easier to clean and maintain.

### **(SAQ)SWAROVSKI CRYSTAL: A beautiful value.**

A passion for perfection has made Swarovski the world leader in the production of cut crystal. Swarovski & Co., manufacturer of Strass Crystal, has created a new alternative quality crystal. Swarovski has used advanced technology with old world knowledge to produce a brilliant crystal with precision cutting and superior light reflection. This crystal type is designed for a crystal connoisseur demanding quality at an affordable price.

### **(MWP)MAJESTIC WOOD POLISHED: The choice of traditionalists.**

Our majestic Wood Polished crystal is cut by hand in two stages on an iron and then a sandstone wheel. Each crystal is then polished on a wood wheel with marble dust. These methods go back centuries. If you look closely you will notice faint traces of the wood-wheel attesting to the concentrated labor of the artisan. This is a mark of authenticity. Each piece is a unique and original masterpiece.

### **(I)ITALIAN CRYSTAL: Venetian heritage.**

Venetian crystal (from the glass-making regions in and around Venice) is molded, not cut. You will notice a rounding of edges that comes from fire polishing. Molded crystal though never as brilliant as cut crystal, has a subtle charm and is an exceptional value. It is an ideal budget crystal for heavily dressed and/or commercially oriented chandeliers.

### **MURANO CRYSTAL: Imaginative form.**

Each hand blown piece is an original work of art. No two crystals are alike. When color is added, the crystal takes on a whimsical form. It comes in a variety of shapes and sizes. Including fruit, spheres, tear-drops and flowers.

## *The 5 C's of Crystal Chandeliers*

### **Circumference:**

Understand the right size chandelier for your room. Proper scale 2" per foot of room. If circumference of room is 12' X 14', a 26" diameter chandelier is correct.

#### **Additional Guidelines**

4 - 6 person dining table: 20"-24" chandelier

6 - 8 person dining table: 25"-29" chandelier

8 - 10 person dining table: 30"-36" chandelier

Height above dining table: 30"- 32". Two story Foyer: 10'-11' above the floor.

### **Collection:**

Select the desired shape and style to fit your lifestyle and taste.

### **Cutting:**

Select your quality cut of crystal (refer to above "Types of Crystal"). Buying a crystal chandelier is similar to buying a diamond. Choose your preferred shape and style of the chandelier. Next, the cost of the chandelier will depend on chosen quality of crystal.

### **Color:**

Select desired finish. Glass arm chandeliers are available in Gold or Silver.

**Silver:** The authentic color. Will reflect the true color spectrum of crystal. Works in all interiors.

**Gold:** A dramatic color. Works well when complementing furniture and hardware in brass.