

### 1. Pretty Temptation

[http://stores.ebay.com/Pretty-Temptation-Tools-Supplies\\_Gemmolgy-Tools-Instruments\\_W0QQcoIZ2QQdirZ1QQfsubZ2QQftidZ2QQpZ2QQtZkm](http://stores.ebay.com/Pretty-Temptation-Tools-Supplies_Gemmolgy-Tools-Instruments_W0QQcoIZ2QQdirZ1QQfsubZ2QQftidZ2QQpZ2QQtZkm)

I found the above dealer (in Hong Kong) to be EXTREMELY reputable and I have purchased a lot of items from her (Shirley Lu). She's an FGA, well-versed in gemology and responds to questions quickly. I purchased her **Refractometer** (I replaced with GIA's, eventually), **Polariscope**, **Dichroscope**, **Digital Thickness Gauge**, **Darkfield Loupe**, **GEM-A Estimation Loupe**, and **Desktop rechargeable/AC Monochromatic Light** for use with the refractometer – the light is yellow monochromatic, is excellent and it is VERY inexpensive. Update on **Refractometer**: They now sell a "Professional" version that has better glass (hard to scratch) and easier to read.

### 2. Pretty Rock Productions

<http://www.prettyrock.com/php/gem-instruments.htm>

### 3. Kasso

[www.kasso.com](http://www.kasso.com)

I bought my **Carat Scale** (Tanita 1230 – measures 100 ct +or- 0.01) from them for \$239. GREAT SCALE! I use it with the Specific Gravity kit below. Also **gem tweezers** and a **LWUV/SWUV UltraViolet box**.

### 4. Site in England for OPL Spectroscope

<http://www.bbvali.fatcow.com/OPL/default.htm>

I paid about \$112.00, for the **Portable Diffusion Spectroscope** plus the **Students Guide**, a wonderful book signed by the author.

### 5. Mineralab.com

<http://www.mineralab.com/Scale.htm>

This is another excellent site with a ton of information. I purchased a **Specific Gravity Scale Kit** (SGK - \$79.) that adapts to my Tanita carat scale. They also sell the complete set of Hanneman filters

### 7. GIA Gem Instruments

I bit the bullet and bought a **GIA Duplex II Refractometer**. I think it's one of the best and the only one I know that can take spot readings easily (e.g. cabochons and gems that are not so polished or opaque). Price is high (I think \$850 minus 12% student discount), but it's the most important instrument in gemology that you'll use.

### 8. LABTEK

<http://www.labtek.net/>

A very high quality dealer. I decided on Meiji Techno ( [www.meijitechno.com](http://www.meijitechno.com) ) as the brand of **microscope** to buy. Meiji is a top quality Japanese optics company and makes microscopes for many

different industries. I purchased my scope from Labtek since they provided me with the highest discount while being an extremely reliable authorized Meiji dealer. I purchased the Meiji GEMZ-5TR-SVH. I bought a zoom model that I can use my Nikon digital SLR with (a Trinocular). Meiji modified it to add brightfield illumination, so it has brightfield/darkfield. Important: Always buy a scope with both. Labtek carries other scopes. It's a family business – deal with Steve Whittome, the owner.

9. GREAT Online Forum plus free gemology course!

<http://www.gemologyonline.com>