

'Exceptional' 122-carat diamond that could fetch £60m: But will it bring you bad luck?

- It was found by Petra Diamonds Ltd at its Cullinan mine in South Africa
- Comes months after it sold 29.6-carat blue diamond from mine for £14m
- It is expected to eclipse world's most expensive, a 507-carat white diamond

By [MATTHEW BLAKE](#)

PUBLISHED: 08:55 GMT, 13 June 2014 | **UPDATED:** 00:45 GMT, 14 June 2014

It is the size of a strawberry and weighs a bit less than three pound coins.

But if you had this rare blue beauty in your pocket you would be carrying around a diamond that could be worth more than £60million.

The 'exceptional' 122.5-carat blue diamond was unearthed at the Cullinan mine in South Africa which is renowned for producing giant gems.



Rare gem: Petra Diamonds Ltd said it had recovered the 'exceptional' 122.52-carat gem (pictured from two angles) at its Cullinan mine in South Africa

A blue stone from the mine fetched £508,000 per carat earlier this year. If this much larger one achieves a similar valuation, it would command a price tag of £62million – smashing the record price paid for a rough stone.

Anyone who buys it, however, will be hoping for better luck than the owners of the famous deep blue Hope Diamond. It supposedly puts a curse on those who possess it, as the guillotined Louis XVI and his wife Marie Antoinette discovered.

The newly discovered diamond was dug up by Jersey-based Petra Diamonds at its mine near Pretoria. One industry insider said it was almost unheard of to find a blue stone weighing more than 100 carats.



Sparkler: The jewel, about the size of a strawberry (pictured), is so pure that it is expected to eclipse the current world's most expensive diamond - a 507-carat white diamond dug from the same mine that sold for £20 million in 2010