Natural diamonds are the result of carbon exposed to tremendous heat and pressure deep in the earth. This process can result in a variety of internal characteristics called '[inclusions](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cspetrich%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5CXE77R677%5Cdiamond-clarity.htm##)' and external characteristics called '[blemishes](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cspetrich%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5CXE77R677%5Cdiamond-clarity.htm##).'