

10,000 Hours

In the book *Outliers*, author Malcolm Gladwell says it takes roughly ten thousand hours of practice to achieve mastery in a field.

10,000 hours. To make the number a bit more relatable, that's 416.67 days - more than an entire year if you worked 24/7. That's a lot of hours, a lot of frustration, and a lot of wondering if it's worth it. That time holds a fortune hunter's worth of mistakes, personal growth, and mountaintop and valley moments that fill the **journey to mastery**.

Since Roger began his faceting career in 2001, he has worked on over **14,000 gems**. While making his fair share of mistakes and enduring days of frustration, he wondered, as any master must wonder before he reaches his own destination of "mastery", if he was cut out for faceting... pun intended

Some gems, such as Red Garnet, are problem free and adapt easily to the faceting process, allowing Roger to facet a standard round brilliant in about 45 minutes. Some gems take time to contemplate and gently coax the masterpiece out of the rough. Each mineral's specific characteristics requires finesse to ensure they display their beauty at the maximum capability. The 13.65ct Kenyan Kiwi Garnet Shield featured in "[Sharing the Rough](#)" was a 5 1/2-hour process.



13.65ct Kenyan Kiwi Garnet Shield

can figure a 2-hour average per gemstone.

2 hours x 14,000 gems = **28,000 hours of practice.**

Roger has achieved mastery by Malcolm Gladwell's standard. **Three times over.**

What have you achieved **mastery** of?

What are you willing to put 10,000 hours to?

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