



A diamante – pronounced dee-uh-MAHN-tay – is an unrhymed seven-line poem. The beginning and ending lines are the shortest, while the lines in the middle are longer, giving diamante poems a diamond shape. “Diamante” is the Italian word for diamond, so this poetic form is named for this diamond shape.

There are just a few rules to writing a diamante:

- ❖ Diamantes are seven lines long.
- ❖ The first and last lines have just one word.
- ❖ The second and sixth lines have two words.
- ❖ The third and fifth lines have three words.
- ❖ And the fourth line has four words.
- ❖ Lines 1, 4, and 7 have nouns.
- ❖ Lines 2 and 6 have adjectives.
- ❖ Lines 3 and 5 have verbs.

Here’s an easy way to visualize all three rules:

Noun  
Adjective, Adjective  
Verb, Verb, Verb  
Noun, Noun, Noun, Noun  
Verb, Verb, Verb  
Adjective, Adjective  
Noun

In a **synonym** diamante, the nouns at the beginning and end are two words that mean basically the same thing. Here is an example:

In this diamante, the words “Monsters” and “Creatures” mean the same thing, so they are synonyms.

Monsters  
Evil, Spooky  
Howling, Shrieking, Wailing  
Ghosts, Vampires, Goblins, Witches  
Flying, Scaring, Terrifying  
Creepy, Crawly  
Creatures

From: Kenn Nesbitt’s website *Poetry4Kids.com*

