

How to tell if a Graphite Design Tour AD shaft is authentic or a counterfeit.

All Tour AD shafts have a White P/N label on the butt of the shaft, as shown in the pictures below. Note that the 8-digit number on the bottom of the white label will match the 8 Digits of the Engraved Serial Number that is also located on the butt end of the shaft.

White Butt ID Label Example #1 – Shaft Part Number



White Butt ID Label Example #2 – Serial Number



Engraved Serial Number Example, note that the Serial Number starts and ends with a letter and that the 8 Digits match the 8 Digits on the White ID Label.



Location of Engraved Serial Number on shaft.



Also note the white spine line at the far butt end of the shaft, which is aligned with the center line of the shaft graphics. Most counterfeit shafts lack labeling and have deep cello lines, as shown in the image below.

White Spin Line and White Butt ID Label on the Authentic Shafts.



No Spine Line.

Cello Lines on the handle with no spin line or ID Label.

Most counterfeit shafts lack a spine line, a label, or a serial number and are usually 45.0" in length, compared with the correct length of 46.0". The tip ODs can also vary widely, up to .350" from the standard unpainted tip OD of .335" of the authentic shafts.

Anti-Counterfeit Labeling

There are two types of Anti-Counterfeit Labels applied at the Japan factory on the Tour AD Wood Shafts, as shown in the images below. The current Anti-Counterfeit Label is green. Note the holographic appearance of the green "Graphite Design" logo as the shaft is rotated, causing it to disappear.



Older Style of Anti-Counterfeit Label:

If you peel off the round "AD" counterfeit protection label, you will have a portion of the label remaining on the shaft, and Japanese characters remaining on the label, as shown in the pictures below. Anything less than this would equate to a counterfeit. I have not seen any counterfeit shafts with this label on them yet.



Label applied next to S/N



Appearance after the label has been peeled off the shaft

The "ACCURACY & DISTANCE" logo on the tip of the shaft is almost always in the wrong place on the Counterfeit shafts. The location of this logo on the real shafts is 7" from the Tip.

Authentic



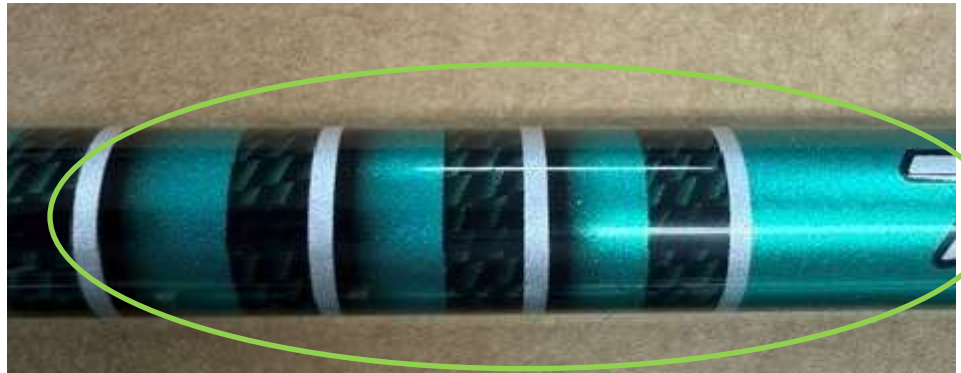
The location of this logo on the counterfeit shafts is usually in the 9 to 9.5" range when measured from the tip.

Counterfeit



Tour AD FI Model:

Authentic



Counterfeit



The counterfeit shaft's weave pattern background has a more prominent checkerboard appearance and is brighter in tone.

Authentic



Counterfeit



Authentic



Counterfeit



The "Graphite Design" font of the counterfeit shaft looks thinner.

Authentic



Counterfeit



The counterfeit shaft's base color is more silver/blue than green.

Tour AD VF Model:

Authentic

Counterfeit



The counterfeit shaft's "Tour AD" logo font appearance is much thinner

Authentic

Counterfeit



The counterfeit shaft's "6" logo font appears blocked and not rounded, unlike the real shaft.

Authentic

Counterfeit



The counterfeit shaft's Red Ring appears slightly larger.

Tour AD GC Model:

Authentic



Counterfeit

The counterfeit shaft's "Tour AD" logo font appears too thin, and the bronze color is too orange.

Authentic

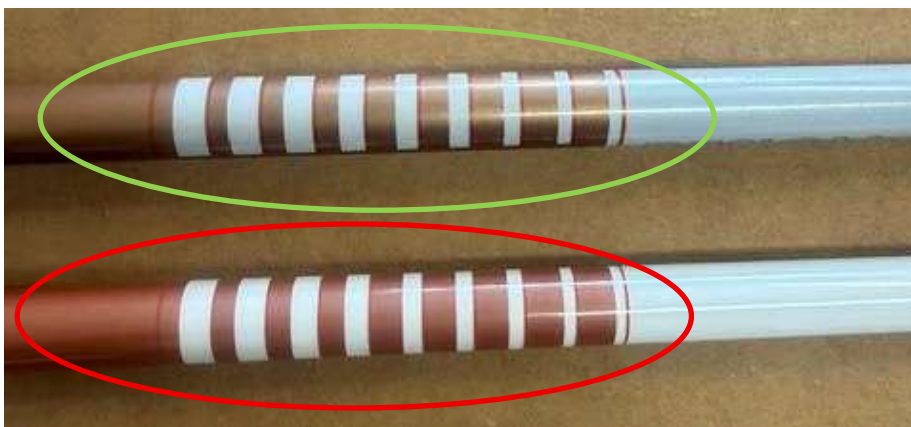


Counterfeit

The counterfeit shaft's "GC-6" logo font appears too thin, and the color is too orange.

Authentic

Counterfeit



The counterfeit shaft's white ring appears slightly smaller.

Tour AD CQ Model:

Authentic

Counterfeit



The counterfeit shaft's "Tour AD" logo font appears too thin, and the red color is darker. The gap between the lines next to the "R" is also different.

Authentic

Counterfeit



The counterfeit shaft's "CQ-6 Flex X" logo appears larger, and the font is incorrect.

Authentic

Counterfeit



The counterfeit shaft's gold and red rings look very different.

Tour AD UB Model:

Authentic

Counterfeit



The counterfeit shaft's "Tour AD" logo font appearance is thinner. The gap between the lines next to the "R" and "P" is also different.

Authentic

Counterfeit



The counterfeit shaft's "6" portion of the logo appears larger, and the font is incorrect.

Authentic

Counterfeit



The counterfeit shaft's black ring are slightly thicker.

Tour AD HD Model

Counterfeit

Authentic



The Counterfeit shaft has a "TM" mark after "TOUR AD" whereas the real shaft does not.



The "ACCURACY & DISTANCE" print location on the counterfeit shaft is incorrect and too far from the tip. The correct location is 7.0" from the tip to the top of the "ACCURACY & DISTANCE" graphic.



The counterfeit shaft “S” in “Flex S” is incorrect in size, as it is smaller than the real shaft. Note that the real shaft silk screen ink has a metallic look to it as well; the counterfeit shaft does not.

Tour AD VR Model



The “Tour AD” logo font is different.



The “S” logo is different.

Tour AD IZ Model

Note that the “6” and the “S” is quite different in appearance.



Real Tour AD IZ "S" - logo



Tour AD BB Model

Note the spacing distance between the "6" and "S" is quite large. The ink color is missing the metallic flake and is also darker in color per the image below.



Fake "Tour AD BB-6 S" logo, ink color is much darker.



Real Tour AD BB-6 S logo, note lighter color of ink and more of a metallic look per below image.



Fake Shaft- Accuracy & Distance logo- the print font is incorrect as is the size compared to the below real shaft.

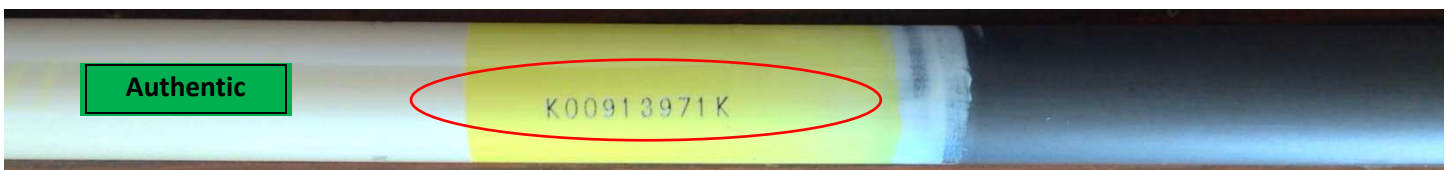


Real Shaft- Accuracy & Distance logo- note the look and size of the font.



Tour AD MT

The serial number has an incorrect look, and the note paint color is also a bit lighter and flat-looking.



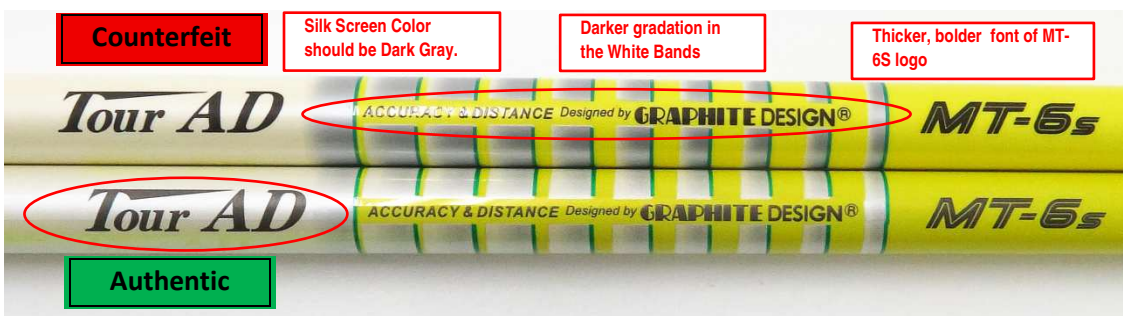
Real Shaft- Serial number is not black and numbers are cleaner looking and closer together. Yellow color has more metallic look.



Fake Tour AD MT- the “MT-6 S” logo is not correct compared to the below real shaft below. Note paint color is not correct and is flatter in tone. Also not the distance from the “R” after “Design” to the last ring is different. The color of the silk screen print is black and it should be a dark gray color.



Real Tour AD MT- note the “MT6-S” logo is much different in this case.



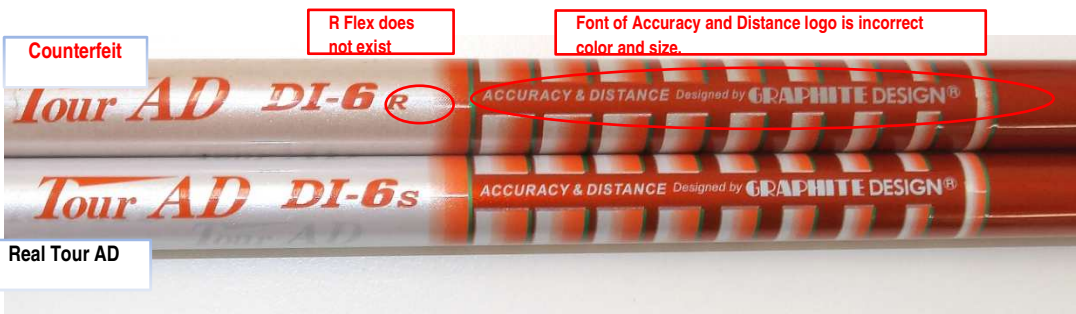
Tour AD DI Old Model

Below is an example of a real vs. fake Tour AD DI-6 S. The fake shaft is very good. The only thing that stands out is the font difference of the word “Accuracy and Distance” seen to the left of the picture. The real shaft logo is crisper, has a slight left-to-right slant, and is “italicized”. The orange silkscreen on the fake shaft is also a bit off, appearing too light. Most of the fake Tour AD DI shafts that I have seen are 45” long and do not have a serial number.

Authentic AD DI-6s



Counterfeit Tour AD DI-6s



Fake Tour AD DI-6R- we do not make a “R” flex in the DI. Note the font of Accuracy and Distance is smaller and not crisp like the real shaft.



Should you have any additional questions, concerns or input, feel free to contact Bill McPherson of Pro's Choice Golf Shafts directly at 619-454-6283 or at b.mcpherson@proschoicegolfshafts.com.