

**Sapphire, (Birthstone for September)** One of the hardest and most durable gemstones, they have been most revered throughout the ages. The Persians believed the world rested on a sapphire, thus producing the blue colour of the sky. Many ancients believed that the Ten Commandments were written on a sapphire tablet. Sapphire is found mainly in Sri Lanka, Thailand, Australia and East Africa.

Structure is Trigonal

Physical properties: hardness = 9, Specific gravity = 4.00

Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.76–1.77 Birefringence = 0.008

**Folklore: Strengthens heart & kidneys, Activates pituitary gland thereby aiding entire glandular system. Aligns body/mind/spirit, stimulating psychic abilities, clarity and inspiration. Excellent for meditation. Chakra(s): throat and third eye.**

Sapphire stock:

- Padparasha - faceted
- Ceylon – Princess cuts
- Orange – Trillion cut
- Pinks – Faceted
- Purples – Oval brilliant cuts
- Yellows – Buff tops
- Yellow – Cabochon pair and large oval cab
- Greens – Princess cuts – Trillion cuts
- Fine Blue – Faceted oval
- Fine Blue – High round cabochon
- Blue Grey – Oval
- Pink & Blue – Radiant cuts
- Round Ceylon – Star
- Pale Pink – Round cabochons
- Dark Blue - Bright Australian group
- Mixed set – Pear cuts
- Mixed set – Oval cuts
- Tiny melee group – Brilliant cuts

**Ruby, (Birthstone for July)** One of the hardest and most durable gemstones, Corundum enjoys a preeminence amongst gems. The finest specimens command the highest prices of any precious stones. Depending on the Chromium and Iron content of the stone, Rubies run shades of red, from pinkish to purplish or brownish red. Ruby is found mainly in Thailand, Burma and East Africa.

Structure is trigonal

Physical properties: hardness = 9, Specific gravity = 4.00

Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.76–1.77 Birefringence = 0.008

**Folklore: Aids regeneration of physical/spiritual heart. Enhances circulation and vitalises the blood. Strengthens immunity. Helps to refine lower passions. Helps banish sense of limitation. Chakra(s): root and heart**

Ruby stock:

- Large & small drops – Drilled
- Very fine round cabochons
- Drilled drop
- Oval cabochons – star effect
- Pear cabochons
- Tiny melee group

**Diamond, (Birthstone for April)** The hardest mineral on earth and most the revered/remembered of gem stones probably because from olden times it was known as the thought amplifier. All types are used from marriage bonds made (pure and colourless) to industrial grades. Diamonds are graded by colour, cut, clarity and carat (weight) – the four c's.

Structure is cubic

Physical properties: hardness = 10, Specific gravity = 3.52

Optical: Refractive Indices = 2.42 Birefringence = none

**Folklore: Enhances brain function and aids the alignment of**

**cranial bones. Breaks up blockages in crown chakra and in the personality. Master healer. Disperses negativity and reflects the will and power of God. Enhances the full spectrum of energies in mind/body/spirit. Chakra(s): all**

Diamond stock:

- Round – Brilliant cut RBC 18 pts
- Round – Brilliant cuts RBC 25 pts
- Brown – Brilliant cuts
- Brown – Flat cuts
- Cubic habit – uncommon

Beryls, belongs to the same gemstone family as Emerald.

**Aquamarine, (Birthstone for March)** a variety of Beryl that enjoys a romance with travellers (given and worn as good luck) and meditators use it for purpose and clarity. As the name implies it refers to water hence its long association with the tranquility of the sea. In the 19th century the preferred colour was sea-green as the name itself means sea water but today the most sought after colour is that of sky-blue and dark blue. Found mainly in Brazil, Nigeria and Zambia.

Structure is hexagonal

Physical properties: hardness = 7.5, Specific gravity = 2.69

Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.57 – 1.58 Birefringence = 0.006

**Folklore: known as a nerve calmer, and aids the reduction of fluid retention. Known to strengthen kidneys, liver, spleen, thyroid thus purifying the body. Enhances clarity of mind and aids creative self expression. Chakra(s): throat and solar plexus.**

Aquamarine stock:

- Sky blue – Unusual high cabochons all Carved
  - Sky blue – Briolette pairs
  - Blues – Flat and high cabochons
  - Flawless Sky blues – Cushion cuts, Brilliant cuts and Step cuts
  - Flawless Sky blues – Faceted and carved
  - Flawless Blue – Single kite cut
  - Pale Blue – Long minute crystals
  - Hugh Blue cabochon - Pear shape
- Green beryl stock:
- Flawless green – Faceted ovals, set of six
- Chrysoberyl stock:
- Light Green (and completely clean) – Brilliant cut ovals

Morganite, another variety of Beryl that is (thankfully) coloured by Manganese impurities, the pink, rose, peach and violet varieties are all called Morganite.

Named after the American Banker and gem enthusiast, J. Pierpoint Morgan.

Structure is hexagonal

Physical properties: hardness = 7.5, Specific gravity = 2.8

Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.58 – 1.59 Birefringence = 0.008

Morganite stock:

- Flawless pinks – Set of 3 drop shaped cuts
- Flawless Pink – Large square step cut

Golden beryl, takes in the colour varieties between lemon, yellow and golden yellow. The pigment present is probably iron and is mostly flawless. New experimentation with faceting and carving is taking place with the younger contemporary cutters and we have embraced these new developments, see below.

Structure is hexagonal

Physical properties: hardness = 7.5, Specific gravity = 2.8

Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.57 – 1.58 Birefringence = 0.005

- Lemon – High voluminous cabochon (multiple) pairs
- Lemon – Matched scissor cuts in fours & pairs
- Yellow – Pair of new Triangular faceted cushions
- Golden yellow – Pair of new Triangular faceted cushions

- Golden yellow – Large eight sided carved and faceted stone
- Golden yellow – Lozenge shaped carved and faceted stone

**Emerald, (Birthstone for May)** derives its beautiful green colour from the presence of chromium and vanadium. Emeralds are rarely flawless and usually have either cloudy inclusions or tremolite inclusions that are usually seen as short rods or long fibres.

Structure is hexagonal  
Physical properties: hardness = 7.25, Specific gravity = 2.71  
Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.57 – 1.58 Birefringence = 0.006

**Folklore: Historically it was one of the most valuable stones and used for curing a wide range of ailments. Cleopatra's mine near the Red Sea has been mined since 2,000 BC. Aids alignment of subtle bodies and is a dream enhancer and used to aid deeper spiritual insight. A strong emotional balancer**  
**Chakra(s): heart, solar plexus.**

- Bright deep green – Octagonal step cut
- Flat bevelled - Carved top and base
- Flat bevelled - Carved top and base

**Tourmaline, (Birthstone of October)** - All colours aid in the balance of the endocrine system, and help to fight sleeplessness. Activates and enhances the crystalline properties of the body/mind. Chakra(s): Black tourmaline (schorl) root, Watermelon (red/green) root, Green heart, Blue (indicolite) throat, third eye Red/Pink (rubelite) root & heart.

Actually, we have a transitional smoky quartz to tourmaline called smokytrines.

Structure is trigonal  
Physical properties: hardness = 4, Specific gravity = 5.2  
Optical: Refractive Indices = 2.94 – 3.22 Birefringence = 0.280

**Folklore: Tourmaline, occurs in the widest array of colours of any gemstone species. It has only been recognised as a separate gemstone family in the last 250 years. Green and red were long mistaken for emeralds and ruby. Emerald green is the most rare with the colourless Achronite (a variety of Elbanite) is particularly scarce. Found mainly in Brazil, Mozambique, Madagascar, Nigeria and the United States. We have friends from San Diego, California who mine and cut them in newer contemporary cuts you'll love to own.**

Tourmaline stock:  
– Green to Black – Hand drilled beads and drops (multiples)  
– Emerald Green African – Brilliant cut  
– Emerald Green Brazilian – Pear cut (large)  
– Chrome – Cabochons  
– Chrome – Pear cuts  
– Chrome – Square step cut deep stone  
– Raspberry Rhodolite – Ovals, both brilliant cuts  
– Pink – Brilliant cut with buff top  
– Pinks – Cabochons in ovals, squares, triangles and pairs  
– Pink to Purple – Double cushions (large)  
– Bi-coloured – Brilliant cut  
– Bi and Tri-coloured – antique carved tops (multiples)  
– Pink & Green matching – Brilliants with buff tops (several pairs)  
– Smokytrines – Newer cuts, lozenge and pairs  
– Brown – Dravites in single drilled beads and faceted stones  
– Paraiba – Pair of high cabochons  
– Himalayan Achronite – Stepped flats (pair)  
– Tourmaline & Amethyst – Cabochon beans (pairs)

**Garnet, (Birthstone for January)** Large family of gemstones which occur in every shade except blue. The most popular varieties are the pyrope (red), almandine (brownish-red), and rhodolite (pink-violet). Rarer varieties include grossular- hessonite (green and yellow) spessartite (yellow orange to brownish red) and malaya (golden orange to flame red).

Structure is cubic  
Physical properties: hardness = 7.25, Specific gravity = 3.65  
Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.73 – 1.75 Birefringence = none

**Folklore: Garnet, believed from olden times to strengthen, purify, vitalise and regenerate bodily systems especially the bloodstream. Has strong affinity with the root chakra helping to harmonise the potent forces of the kundalini. Stimulating the pituitary gland and thus aligning the subtle bodies.**  
**Chakra(s): root, heart.**

Garnet stock:  
– Rare Hessonite – Brilliant cut oval  
– Melanite – Cubic crystals  
– Malaya Pink – Brilliant cuts round  
– Malaya Pink – Step cuts octagonal  
– Malaya Pink – Brilliant cut oval  
– Rhodolite Raspberry – Mixed cut oval  
– Rhodolite Raspberry – Mixed cut oval  
– Rhodolite Pink-Red – Emerald cut  
– Pyrope – Bullets

**Spinel, occurs in a wide range of colours, it is a tribute to this unusually red or pink gem that many of the world's celebrated 'Rubies' (including several in the Crown Jewels of England ) were found to be Spinel. Even after they were correctly identified as Spinel, these gems were still referred to as 'Balas Rubies' or 'Ruby Spinel'. The red is coloured by chromium, the blue is coloured by the presence of iron. They are found mainly in Burma and Sri Lanka.**

Structure is cubic  
Physical properties: hardness = 8, Specific gravity = 3.60  
Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.71 – 1.73 Birefringence = none

**Folklore: Mostly covered by the Ruby detail. The name may derive from the Latin word spina, meaning little thorn, referring to the sharp points on some crystals.**

Spinel stock:  
– Mauve & Blue – Brilliant cuts round  
– Bright red – Drilled drop  
– Red – Drilled drop

**Opal, (Birthstone for October)** up until the 1800s the Opal was a gemstone symbolising hope. However in 1817 with the production of Sir Walter Scott's book, Ann of Geierstein, in which the Opal was used as a symbol of misfortune, the gemstone lost its popularity. It later regained favor when Queen Victoria, an Opal devotee presented her daughters with wedding gifts of Opals. The name is derived from the Indian name for 'stone'. Found mainly in Australia, Brazil and Mexico.

Structure is amorphous  
Physical properties: hardness = 6, Specific gravity = 2.10  
Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.37 – 1.47 Birefringence = none

**Folklore: Pretty well covered in the above, it is a hardened silica gel usually containing a small percentage of water. It is therefore non-crystalline, unlike most other gems and may eventually dry out and crack. Known to stimulate the pineal and pituitary glands, thus enhancing intuition and is an emotional balancer. Chakra(s): heart (and depending on colour, is said to assist others).**

Opal stock:  
– Oregon Fire opal – Hexagonal with buff top  
– Mexican Fire opal – Lighter, base faceted buff top oval  
– Mexican Fire opal – darker, base faceted buff top oval  
– Australian Boulder opal – pairs and singles, one doublet  
– Peruvian Blue – High cabochon, round  
– Peruvian Blue – Cabochon pair, round

**Iolite**, is a beautiful violet-blue gemstone, whose name is derived from 'ios' the greek word for purple. Because of its soft, almost liquid colour it is often mistaken for Sapphire. Iolite is found mainly in East Africa and India. Recently it has become supremely fashionable and in Tucson is highly sought after. It can be recognised by its strong pleochroism, visible without equipment, which gives the gem its other name of dichroite.

Structure is orthorhombic  
Physical properties: hardness = 7, Specific gravity = 2.63  
Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.53 – 1.55 Birefringence = 0.010

**Folklore: Nothing gleaned of interest to pass on.**

Iolite stock:  
– Purple gem quality – Checkerboard cut  
– Purple gem quality – Checkerboard cut  
– Purple gem quality – Buff tops (multiples)

**Sunstone**, is a species of plagioclase feldspar and the variety used in jewellery is the aventurine feldspar named sunstone. We remember seeing it first at Tucson in 1999 where it was voted the gemstone of the show and research shows it was only discovered in 1980 in Oregon, USA. Our stocks come from friends who mine and cut this unusual gem, all have been sold but one fantastic specimen.

Structure is triclinic  
Physical properties: hardness = 6, Specific gravity = 2.64  
Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.54 – 1.55 Birefringence = 0.007

**Folklore: Nothing found.**

Sunstone stock:  
– Orange Losenze - Faceted base, checkerboard cut top

**Amethyst, (Birthstone of February)**, crystalline quartz in shades of purple, lilac or mauve is called amethyst, the name is originally from the greek 'amethystos' which means to prevent drunkenness. The stone was traditionally worn to guard against drunkenness and to instil a sober and serious mind. No wonder the ancients loved to drink from an amethyst cup!

Structure is trigonal  
Physical properties: hardness = 7, Specific gravity = 2.65  
Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.54 – 1.55 Birefringence = 0.009

**Folklore: Says it aids mental disorders, used in purification and regeneration on all levels of consciousness. Transmutes one's lower nature into the more highly refined aspects of higher potentials. Physical representative of the violet ray of alchemy and transformation. Cuts through illusion and enhances psychic abilities. Excellent for meditation and aids channeling capabilities. Chakra(s): third eye and crown.**

Amethyst stock:  
– Earring set – Bullets (pair)  
– Calibrated group – Seven 2mm round brilliant cuts  
– Double cabochons – Bean cuts (pair)  
– Double cabochons – Pillow cuts (pair)

**Citrine**, the golden yellow of quartz often mistaken for yellow or golden topaz, also known as Brazilian Topaz. Colouration due to iron and the name is derived from the word 'citrus'. Its composition is a silicon dioxide.

Structure is trigonal  
Physical properties: hardness = 7, Specific gravity = 2.65  
Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.54 – 1.55 Birefringence = 0.009

**Folklore: Known to work on the kidneys, gallbladder, colon, digestive organs, heart & tissue regeneration. Detoxifies**

**Physical/emotional/mental bodies. Says it enhances the bodies healing energy. Chakra(s): navel, crown.**

Citrine stock:  
– Brilliant orange – Trillion cut  
– Brilliant orange – Bullets (pair)  
– Brilliant orange – Bullets (pair)  
– Brilliant orange – Brilliant cut

**Topaz, (Birthstone of November)** - All colours have the distinction of being curative. Among other things it apparently cools temperatures, restores sanity, has cured asthma & relieved insomnia AND even warded off sudden death! Topaz is found mainly in Brazil, Nigeria and Sri Lanka.

Structure is orthorhombic  
Physical properties: hardness = 8, Specific gravity = 3.54  
Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.62 – 1.63 Birefringence = 0.010

**Folklore: (Gold topaz) Big on tissue regeneration and detoxification processes. Warming and awakening are descriptions of its powers. Chakra(s) navel, crown.**

Topaz stock:  
– Imperial gold – Brilliant cuts round (pair)  
– Imperial gold – Brilliant cuts round (pair)  
– Imperial gold – Brilliant cuts round (2 pair)

**Moonstone, (Birthstone for June)** is the opalescent variety of orthoclase with a blue or white sheen (or schiller), rather like a shine of the moon after which it is named. This is caused by the reflection of light from the internal structure, made up of alternating layers of albite and orthoclase feldspar. Stones of large size and fine quality are rare, we also have beautiful carved ones!

Structure is monoclinic  
Physical properties: hardness = 6, Specific gravity = 2.57  
Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.52 – 1.53 Birefringence = 0.005

**Folklore: Said to align emotions with the higher self. Has healing affinity with the stomach, spleen, pancreas and lymphatic system. Relieves anxiety and stress and aids the birthing process. Emotional balancer, helps lessen the tendency to over-react emotionally. Chakra(s): heart.**

Moonstone stock:  
– Moonstone – Cabochons high squares (pairs)  
– Rainbow Moonstone – Cabochon round  
– Rainbow Moonstone – Cabochon high round  
– Rainbow Moonstone – Carved round (multiples)  
– Rainbow Moonstone – Cabochon large round  
– Rainbow Moonstone – Faceted round (pair)

**Herkimer Diamond**, a type of quartz crystal. Our samples are from upstate New York and straight from the miner who found them.

Structure is trigonal  
Physical properties: hardness = 7, Specific gravity = 2.65  
Optical: Refractive Indices = 1.54 – 1.55 Birefringence = 0.009

**Folklore: The esoteric gem used to cleanse subtle bodies, reduce stress and balance and purify energies within the body/mind. A most powerful amplifier and enhancer of inner visions. Used to increase the awareness of dreams, its known as the 'dream crystal'. Chakra(s): all.**

Herkimer stock:  
– double points (multiples)