



## Gemstone Color

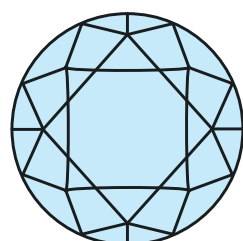
A gemstone's color or hue often works as an identification mark. For most gemstones, its color saturation can be an attribute to its value. Gemstone colors range from pale to intense with variations even within a single stone, and can be categorised into hue, tone and saturation.

**HUE:** It is the predominant color of the gemstone. The basic colors of the spectrum account for hue.

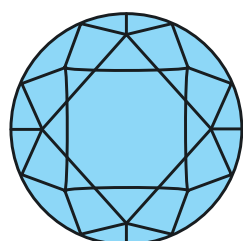
**TONE:** The types of shades available in a stone are its tone. For. e.g, a dark blue gemstone can be ink-blue, royal-blue, pale-blue, greyish-blue, purplish-blue, blue-black so on and so forth.

**SATURATION:** The intensity of the gemstone color is its saturation. Saturations can sometimes increase or decrease the price of a gemstone.

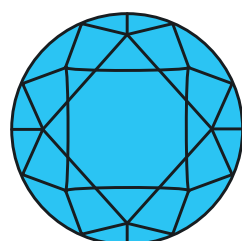
Light



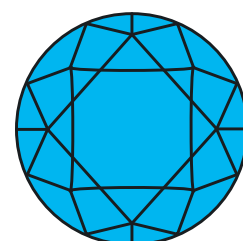
Medium-Light



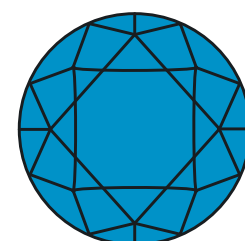
Medium



Medium-Deep



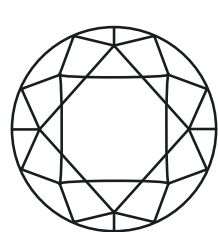
Deep



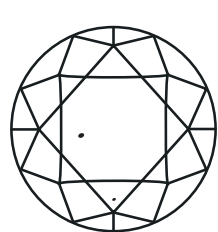
## Gemstone Clarity

Gemstones have naturally occurring inclusions in the form of cloud or crystals, these can often help you determine the authenticity of a stone. In some cases these inclusions can become part of the gemstones beauty like in case of turquoise or lapis lazuli.

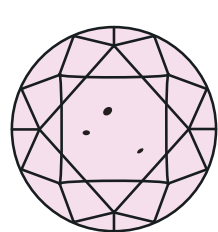
FL, IF



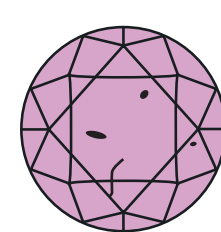
VVS1, VVS2



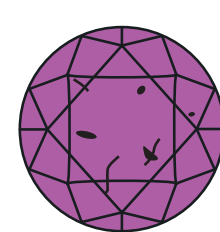
VS1, VS2



S12



I2



FLAWLESS / INTERNALLY FLAWLESS

VERY VERY SLIGHTLY INCLUDED

VERY SLIGHTLY INCLUDED

SLIGHTLY INCLUDED

INCLUDED

## Gemstone Size

Like any jewellery products, a larger piece costs higher than a smaller one. The size increases the density of the stone which is directly proportional to the cost and value of the gemstone. The gemstone's size is usually measured visually in millimetres and its weight is measured in carats. In India, gemstones are measures in *Rati*, a Sanskrit word to describe the weight of gemstones, (1 Rati = 0.91ct).

## Gemstone Cut

For any precious or semi-precious stone the superiority of one stone over the other depends fairly on its cut and ability to reflect and refract light. In case of transparent and translucent gemstones this is an important factor. For opaque stones, light does not penetrate the stone, hence the symmetry, visible facets and overall polish of the gemstone measure its quality and selling price.

## Birthstones

Birthstones are gemstones that have been associated with one month of the year representing a person's birth month or zodiac. Some gemstones are said to represent the nine planets and are labelled as Astrological stones. Either of which is allegedly said to aid in various issues of health, fortune, love and luck as they reduce or enhance the effects of planets on the individual. However, there is no clear proof of this. Astro-gems are associated with 9 planets and have a substitute each, however, birthstones are assigned to the months, where is it possible to have more than one birthstone for a given month.



### Garnet - January

Garnet is the birthstone for those that are born on the month of January. The word Garnet derives from the 14th century word "gernet" meaning a deep red color. Garnet is actually a group of minerals as opposed to the others that are a specific mineral. It typically goes with just about any type of jewelry.



### Amethyst - February

An amethyst is the birthstone for those born in the month of February. The term `amethyst` derives from the ancient Greek word `methustos`, which translates roughly to intoxicated. Actually, amethyst is a variety of quartz. An amethyst is produced when there are certain impurities in quartz that gives it the purple coloration. The deep purple of an amethyst has long signified royalty and adorns many crowns and royal jewelry.



### Aquamarine - March

Aquamarine is the birthstone for those lucky enough to be born in March. The word aquamarine is a combination of 2 words, aqua meaning `water` and marina meaning `the sea`. In ancient times, it was used by sailors to give them good luck on the seas and to ensure a safe voyage. Aquamarine is a type of beryl, a rare silicate mineral that is found in igneous and metamorphic rocks around the world.



### Diamond - April

Diamond is the birthstone for the month of April. The name diamond is derived from the Greek word `adamas` meaning `invincible`. Diamonds are pure carbon that undergo extreme temperatures and pressures below the surface of the Earth. They come in a range of colors from yellow to red, pink, green and blue. However, the pure colorless variety are extremely rare and the most prized gemstones in the world. They have been valued for thousands of years in civilizations around the world.



### Emerald - May

Emerald is the birthstone for those born in the month of May. The word emerald is derived from the Greek word `smaragdus` which translates to green. Like the aquamarine, an emerald is a green variety of beryl with traces of chromium or vanadium along with iron. Most emeralds are heat treated to deepen their green color. Emerald is part of the "big three" colored gemstones, in addition to ruby and sapphire.



### Pearl - June

Pearls are your lucky birthstone if you were born in the month of June. The word pearl comes from the French word `perle`, which means leg. It refers to the leg shape of a mollusk shell. Pearls are gemstones but not minerals as pearls are formed by living organisms, mollusks. The majority of pearls you find in the marketplace today are actually cultured in a pearl farm.



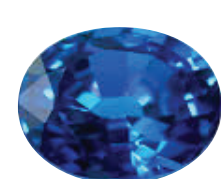
### Ruby - July

Ruby is your birthstone, if you are born in the month of July. The name ruby comes from the Latin word for red, `rubeus`. Ruby is a variety of corundum which is then colored to a deep red coloring by chromium. The ruby is known to represent life and blood and is known to increase courage. In fact, warriors in Burma would implant rubies into their skin before battle for protection and courage on the battlefield.



### Peridot - August

Peridot is your birthstone if you were born in the month of August. Peridot possibly derives its name from the Arabic word for gem, `faridat`. It has a vibrant green glow. Peridot is actually gem quality olivine, a mineral commonly found in mafic igneous rocks. In Hawaiian folklore, peridot symbolizes the tears of the volcano goddess Pele.



### Sapphire - September

If you were born in September your birthstone is the sapphire. The name sapphire comes from the Latin word for blue stone, `sapphirus`. Similar to a ruby, sapphire is a variety of corundum that adorns a deep blue color from traces of both titanium and iron. Sapphires are second to diamonds in their hardness. Deep blue sapphires from Kashmir in India are known to be some of the best sapphires in the world.



### Opal - October

If you were born in the month of October, your birthstone is both opal and tourmaline. Tourmaline comes from the Sinhalese word for mixed colored stone, `tura mali`. In fact, tourmaline is a group of minerals that have very different chemical compositions and colors. Opal gets its name from the Greek word `opallios`, roughly translates into "to see a change in color" as demonstrated when you spin an opal. Most of the opal in the world is produced from Australia.



### Topaz - November

Topaz and citrine are the birthstones associated with the birth month of November. The name topaz comes from the Greek name for St. John's Island located in the Red Sea, `Topaziois`. Topaz picks up its bright yellow color from certain impurities, as with most gems. A large chunk of the topaz in the world comes from Brazil.



### Turquoise - December

There are 3 birthstones for the month of December: tanzanite, zircon and turquoise. All three stones are a deep blue color and have their own history and chemical composition. The more interesting of the three is tanzanite, a gem found only in Tanzania and discovered recently. Tanzanite was discovered by Maasai herders and the name `Tanzanite` was coined by Tiffany & Company.