

Olivine Var Peridot [(Mg, Fe)₂ SiO₄]

Peridot, a gem-quality form of olivine, is a major component of the Earth's upper mantle. Olivine is generally the first mineral to crystallize in mafic and ultramafic magmas, which have a low silica content. Volcanoes sometimes erupt mafic lavas containing accidental inclusions of the wall rock, called ultramafic nodules. This specimen is a fine example of deep-seated olivine-rich nodules encased in a basaltic lava. B40



Peridot B40