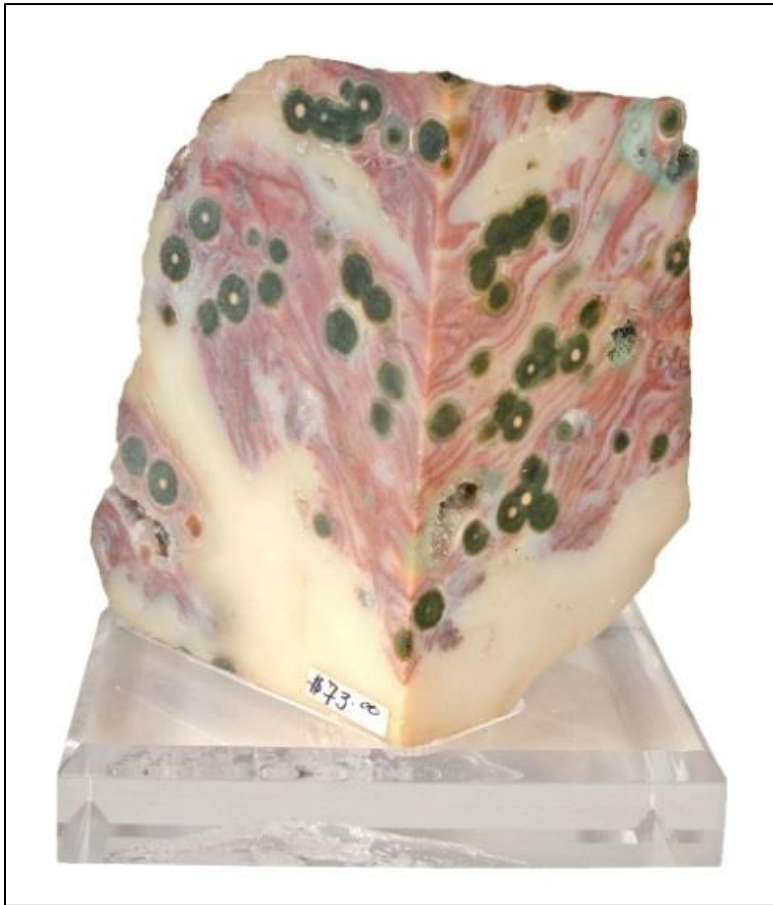


Agate [SiO₂]



Agate PK3

Agate is a general term given to a group of mineraloids that exhibit banded rings and are often polished to better show the internal structure. Agates are composed of a cryptocrystalline variety of silica, primarily a mineraloid called chalcedony. Banding occurs in cavities where degassing of magma forms gas bubbles or vesicles. These cavities are filled—layer by layer—by a siliceous precipitate until the agate is filled. Agates have been found all around the world, often on beach shorelines where they are washed up and naturally polished by tidal wave-action. PK3 a\.

Agates are formed in volcanic and metamorphic environments and can have a variety of colors.



Agate R27