

Pyrite [FeS₂]

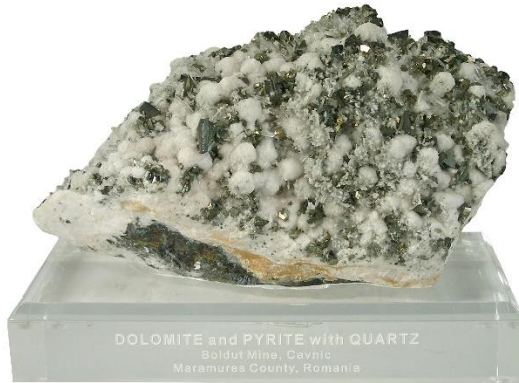
Pyrite, also known by its informal name “fool’s gold,” is derived from the Greek word *pyr*, meaning “fire” because when pyrite is struck by iron it emits a spark. Although much lighter and brassier in color than gold, pyrite has been mistaken as gold by novice prospectors for hundreds of years. Pyrite crystals most often form as cubes, but octahedron and pyritohedron (also known as pentagonal dodecahedron) crystals are also common. Pyrite is found in sedimentary rocks, such as shale, coal, and limestone. The pyrite “sun” or “dollar” forms when growth is restricted between tightly spaced layers of shale, causing it to grow in a laterally compressed and radiating manner. OR28



Pyrite Dollar in Shale OR28



Pyrite PK41



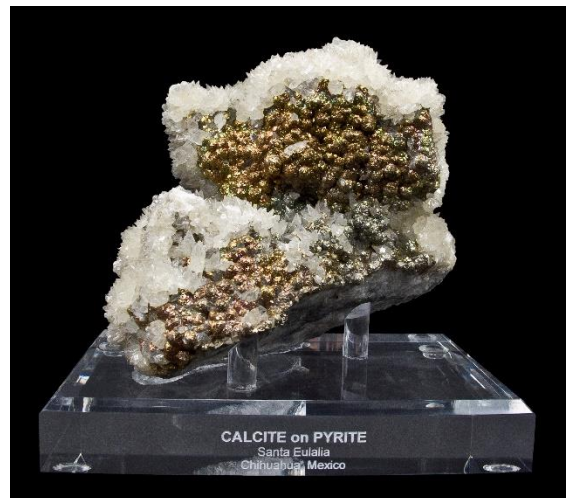
Dolomite, Pyrite and Quartz OR2



Pyrite with Quartz OR30



Pyrite and Calcite R2



Calcite on Pyrite M3