

Topaz $[Al_2SiO_4(F,OH)_2]$

Topaz has a hardness of 8 and is relatively resistant to weathering and stream abrasion, thereby enabling it to be found in shallow waters near topaz-bearing deposits. Most often found in felsic (silica rich) igneous rocks, topaz is common in pegmatites and in open cavities in rhyolite and granite. Although topaz is considered to be a rare mineral, it occurs worldwide, and is a very popular gemstone. The color of topaz normally varies from yellow to brown. Naturally formed blue topaz, such as the specimens above, are the rarest color variation, and highly sought after.



Topaz G8



Topaz B35

Topaz is part of the orthorhombic crystal group. High quality, water-clear topaz exists when no trace elements were present during its crystallization—a geological feat that rarely occurs. The large, sharp crystal faces of the colorless topaz crystal reflect the internal atomic structure of the mineral. Clear specimens with a visibly distinct structure are extremely rare, and highly sought after.



Topaz P17



Topaz PK8