

ROCKS & Co.®

THE CLEVER GEM BUYER



GAVIN LINSELL

Multicoloured Gems (Continued)



South Sea Pearl



Tahitian Pearl



Twilight Topaz



White Opal



Zultanite

Other multicoloured gems include Bi Colour Morganite, Boulder Opal, Cat's Eye Alexandrite, Fire Agate, Mabe Pearl, Mookite, Rainbow Quartz, Scapolite, Snowflake Obsidian and Spectrolite.

Red - Pink Gems



Cherry Topaz



Flamingo Topaz



Kunzite



Morganite



Mozambique Garnet



Mulberry Topaz



Noble Red Spinel



Pink Diamond



Pink Sapphire



Pink Spinel



Pink Tourmaline



Pyrope

and this is telling. In reality, Alexandrite is not dependent on the colours of the change. In candescent light, Alexandrite can appear blue-green, forest green, green, khaki, teal or yellowish-green, and combinations thereof, and brownish-red, orangey-red, red or reddish-purple, and combinations thereof, in incandescent light.

The single biggest value consideration of Alexandrite is its colour change. Any colour change gem is judged by the strength of its change, and how attractive and distinct its colour is in both candescent and incandescent light. Colour preference is subjective, so I am not going to dictate tastes, but the 'ideal' Alexandrite will display distinct medium toned intense colours in both light sources, with the pure daylight greens to night time reds valued highest. Alexandrite that displays a percentage colour change of less than 30 percent or visible greyish, yellowish or brownish tints will be priced accordingly. Nevertheless, Alexandrite with a pure

Zultanite

First collected and faceted by 'rock hounds' (mineral enthusiasts) in the late seventies, Zultanite is now mined commercially. A rare colour change variety of the mineral Diaspore coloured by manganese, Zultanite hails from a sole deposit, a remote mountain area in Anatolia, Turkey. Much like Alexandrite, Zultanite's name also has a royal connection, being named by Murat Akgun in honour of the 36 sultans who ruled the Ottoman Empire in Anatolia in the late 13th century. Noted for its attractive earthy hues, Zultanite's colour change is not limited to two basic colours, exhibiting a range of greens, purplish-reds and yellows in different light sources. Zultanite changes from kiwi greens with canary flashes under sunny skies, to rich champagnes in traditional indoor lighting and raspberry hues in candlelight. With up to 98 percent of the crystal lost during lapidary, Zultanite's very low yield is one of the reasons it is so rare, especially in sizes over 5 carats. The clarity standard for Zultanite is eye-clean (no visible inclusions when the gem is examined six inches from the naked eye). Similar to Alexandrite, Cat's Eye Zultanite is also available. Zultanite is a personal favourite and I wrote its page on the ICA (International Coloured Gemstone Association) website: www.gemstone.org.



Gemstone	Hardness	Refractive Index	Relative Density
Rhodolite	7 - 7.5	1.760	3.62 - 3.87
Rhodonite	5.5 - 6.5	1.716 - 1.752	3.40 - 3.74
Rose Quartz	7	1.544 - 1.553	2.65
Rubellite	7 - 7.5	1.624 - 1.644	2.82 - 3.32
Ruby	9	1.762 - 1.778	3.97 - 4.05
Sapphire	9	1.762 - 1.788	3.95 - 4.03
Sard	6.5 - 7	1.530 - 1.540	2.58 - 2.64
Sardonyx	6.5 - 7	1.530 - 1.540	2.60 - 2.64
Scapolite	5.5 - 6	1.540 - 1.579	2.57 - 2.74
Scheelite	4.5 - 5	1.918 - 1.937	5.9 - 6.3
Sillimanite	6 - 7	1.650 - 1.680	3.24
Sodalite	5.5 - 6	1.480	2.14 - 2.40
Spectrolite	6 - 6.5	1.559 - 1.570	2.65 - 2.75
Spessartite	7 - 7.5	1.810	4.12 - 4.18
Sphene	5 - 5.5	1.843 - 2.110	3.52 - 3.54
Spinel	8	1.712 - 1.762	3.54 - 3.63
Sugilite	6 - 6.5	1.607 - 1.611	2.76 - 2.80
Sunstone	6 - 6.5	1.510 - 1.550	2.62 - 2.65
Tanzanite	6.5 - 7	1.691 - 1.700	3.35
Tiger's Eye	6.5 - 7	1.534 - 1.540	2.58 - 2.64
Topaz	8	1.609 - 1.643	3.49 - 3.57
Tourmaline	7 - 7.5	1.624 - 1.644	2.82 - 3.32
Tsavorite	7 - 7.5	1.740	3.57 - 3.73
Turquoise	5 - 6	1.610 - 1.650	2.31 - 2.84
Umbalite	7 - 7.5	1.760	3.62 - 3.87
Unakite	6 - 7	1.525 - 1.760	2.85 - 3.20
Yellow Beryl	7.5 - 8	1.562 - 1.602	2.66 - 2.87
Zircon	6.5 - 7.5	1.810 - 2.024	3.93 - 4.73
Zultanite	6.5 - 7	1.700 - 1.750	3.30 - 3.39

Gemstone	Enhancement	Explanation & Frequency	Special Care Instructions	Steam Cleaning	Ultrasonic Cleaning
Topaz (excluding White)	Irradiated, heated, PVD coated and/or diffused.	Usually applied to improve colour intensity or to produce unique colours. Physical Vapour Deposition (PVD) is an oxide enhancement that uses optical interference to produce a variety of colours by applying a bonded layer of fine titanium atoms to a gemstone (U.S. Patent Number 5,853,826 for Azotic Coating Technologies Inc.).	Do not wear or leave for extended periods in strong light as these gems may fade or revert to their original colour. Do not re-cut or re-polish gemstones with superficial colour (or phenomena) surface layers.	X	X
Tourmaline (including Black, Blue Green, Cuprian, Fancy, Green, Indicolite, Paraiba, Pirineu, Pink, Rubellite, Shimoyo Rubellite and Santa Rosa)	Heated and/or irradiated and/or filling of colourless oil, resin and wax in fissures and/or cavities/fractures filled with colourless hardened substances.	Commonly used to improve colour intensity and appearance.	None.	✓	X
Tourmaline (Bi Colour)	Natural.	N/A	None.	✓	X
Turquoise	Impregnated with plastic and/or surface colourless waxing and/or dyed.	Dying is rare, while impregnation with plastic and surface colourless waxing is common. All improve stability, durability, lustre and/or colour.	None.	✓	X
Unakite	Natural.	N/A	None.	✓	✓
Zircon (including Cinnamon, Ratanakiri, Red, Yellow and White)	Heated.	Always used to improve colour.	Do not wear or leave for extended periods in strong light as these gems may fade or revert to their original colour.	✓	X
Zircon (including Brown and Green)	Natural.	N/A	Do not wear or leave for extended periods in strong light as these gems may fade or revert to their original colour.	✓	X
Zultanite (including Cat's Eye)	Natural.	N/A	None.	✓	X