



# GIA®

## CITRINE



Citrine is the transparent, pale yellow to brownish orange variety of quartz. A saturated yellow to reddish orange color free of brownish tints is prized in citrine. Gem dealers look for citrines without color zoning or visible inclusions.

### CITRINE - COLOR

The finest citrine colors are saturated, with little or no brown component, and range from yellow to orangy yellow to reddish orange. In nature, citrine's yellow color is rare so most of the citrine on the market is heat treated amethyst (purple quartz).



### TIPS AND ADVICE

#### SEEK THE WARMTH.

Look for the warm, sunny hues of citrine when you're shopping for a yellow gemstone. Citrine is an affordable alternative to more expensive gems like topaz and yellow sapphire.

#### LOOK FOR WELL-MATCHED COLORS.

Citrine in attractive yellow colors is plentiful enough for jewelers to match in multi-gem jewelry. Colors should match or blend artistically.

#### GO FOR THE BOLD.

You'll find citrine jewelry in bold, dramatic jewelry designs that are also reasonably priced.

#### CARING FOR YOUR CITRINE

Like other varieties of quartz, citrine has a hardness of 7 on the Mohs scale and has good toughness, so it's suitable for all types of jewelry. Abrupt temperature changes can cause citrine to fracture, and its color can fade with prolonged exposure to intense light. Citrine can be safely cleaned with warm, soapy water. While cleaning citrine in an ultrasonic machine is usually safe, steam cleaning is risky since citrine should not be subjected to heat.

### CITRINE - CLARITY

Citrine is usually "eye-clean," meaning it lacks eye-visible inclusions. Visible inclusions in pale-colored gems reduce citrine's value greatly.



### CITRINE - CUT

Citrine is available in a wide variety of shapes and cutting styles often in calibrated millimeter sizes. Citrine rough with minor inclusions is often used to make beads or occasionally for cabochons or carvings.



### CITRINE - CARAT WEIGHT

Citrine is not priced significantly more per carat in large sizes than it is in smaller sizes, making it a good choice for bold jewelry designs. Unlike other colored gems, smaller citrines can have a more saturated color, making it easier to create matched sets.



## FAQ

**Q: IS CITRINE TREATED?**

**A:** Because quartz in yellow hues is rare in nature, most citrine sold today is the result of heating, which converts less-valuable light purple amethyst to the "golden" hues of citrine.

**Q: IS THERE SYNTHETIC CITRINE?**

**A:** Quartz is grown in laboratories for industrial purposes and to make synthetic amethyst. Some of this material is treated to become synthetic citrine quartz.

**Q: HOW CAN I JUDGE CITRINE'S QUALITY?**

**A:** Look for eye-clean gems with a pleasing color and an attractive cut that reflects light in a bright and lively way.

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