



GIA®

PERIDOT



Found in lava, meteorites, and deep in the earth's mantle, yellowish green peridot is the extreme gem. Connoisseurs seek out large, well-cut, intensely colored green stones but there's a thriving market for smaller, lighter shades in standard sizes.

PERIDOT - COLOR

The most favored peridot color is a richly saturated green to slightly yellowish green that's free from brown tints that is best displayed in larger gems. Smaller stones sometimes show yellowish green hues and brown undertones which may lower the value of peridot.



TIPS AND ADVICE

DON'T ASSUME YOU HATE PERIDOT!

Some people might not find peridot's color appealing, particularly the olive and yellow-greens of commercial quality stones. Many people have never seen a fine rich green colored gem. Before you decide you don't like it, make sure you see a fine example.

UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE THAT COLOR MAKES.

Look at different colors of peridot side by side to understand the range of qualities available. Olive tones are more affordable than vivid saturated greens.

DON'T COMPROMISE ON CUT.

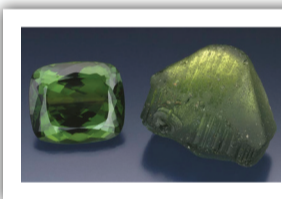
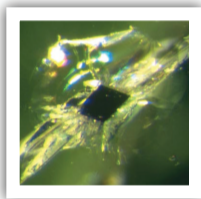
The quality of the cut can make a big difference in beauty and brilliance. Your peridot should reflect light evenly across the gem in a bright and lively way. Poorly cut gems are much less marketable and sell at a discount.

LOOK AT PERIDOT IN WHITE AND YELLOW METALS.

Although it's most common to see peridot set in yellow gold, in fine qualities this gem is complemented equally well by white gold or platinum.

PERIDOT - CLARITY

The best quality peridot has no eye-visible inclusions, with perhaps a few minute chromite mineral crystals which are visible under magnification. Other inclusions common in peridot are reflective, disk-shaped inclusions sometimes called "lily pads."



PERIDOT - CUT

With skilled cutting maximizing its beautiful bodycolor, peridot can be a stunning gem. It's available

in a wide variety of shapes and cutting styles, including brilliant cuts like oval, pear, round, marquise, or cushion, and step cuts like square or rectangular emerald cuts.

PERIDOT - CARAT WEIGHT

The finest gems generally weigh over 10 carats, but fine gems of more than 50 carats are also seen on the market. Smaller stones cut to standard sizes are affordable and readily available.



FAQ

Q: SHOULD I BE LOOKING FOR A PERIDOT FROM MYANMAR, PAKISTAN, OR EGYPT?

A: Although collectors enjoy knowing where their peridot was mined, fine peridot comes from many localities. Because Zabargad Island in the Red Sea, the original locality, is not currently producing, gems that can be confirmed as coming from that source may command a slight premium due to their historic connection.

Q: WHAT IS AAA PERIDOT?

A: Although individual companies might create their own quality descriptions, like AAA, AA, A to denote the range of quality of their goods, no standard quality grading scale exists for peridot.

Q: I'VE SEEN PERIDOT MARKETED AS "UNHEATED." DOES THAT MAKE IT MORE VALUABLE?

A: Peridot is not known to be heated to improve its appearance. Although the claim is technically true, to call it out as a special attribute is misleading.

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