



Peridot

Birthstone Month: **August**

Anniversary: **16th**

Season/Zodiac: **Libra**

Interesting Facts/History

Peridot is reported to ward off evil spirits, eliminate enchantments, as well as prevent nightmares. This is due to its association with the sun and power of its life-giving rays, hence the term “gem of the sun”. Peridot was treasured by the Egyptians, and was called “divine tears wept by Pele, goddess of the Volcano”, in Hawaiian legends.

Name Derivation

Peridot comes from the Arabic word “Zeberget” for Peridot, and also an island in the Red Sea, an early source for the gem.

Varieties, Value and Colour Symbolism

The most valuable Peridot is medium in tone, the most vivid possible, and slightly yellowish Green in hue. Peridot is widely available in a variety of shapes from faceted to cabochon (curved dome), and many sizes.

Where the Gem is Mined

The majority of the Peridot today is mined in Arizona. It is also found in Myanmar (Burma) and China, and other localities.

Durability

Hardness (*resistance to scratching*) = 6 1/2 -7 on the Moh's Scale.

Toughness (*resistance to breaking, chipping, cracking*) = Fair to Good.

Stability (*to heat, light, chemicals*) = Keep away from heat. Stable to light. Avoid acids and jeweler's pickling solution.

Care and Cleaning

Ultrasonic = Best to avoid ultrasonic.

Steam Cleaning = Never.

Repair Recommendations = Peridot must be removed from the setting when direct heat is involved, and kept away from harsh solvents.

Enhancements

Peridot is not subjected to any known enhancements.

Fashion Significance

Peridot's golden green colour represents the sun and has been prized for thousands of years. It can be the perfect fashion statement or accent with any women's jewelry wardrobe.