

Alexandrite gemstone buyer and jewelry collector guide

"Beauty, durability and rarity; such are the three cardinal virtues of a perfect gemstone. Stones lacking any of them cannot aspire to high place in the ranks of the precious stones."

G.F. Herbert Smith (1872 - 1953)

[Alexandrite or... Diaphanite?](#)

[Myths, Legends and Lore](#)

[Identification of Alexandrite](#)

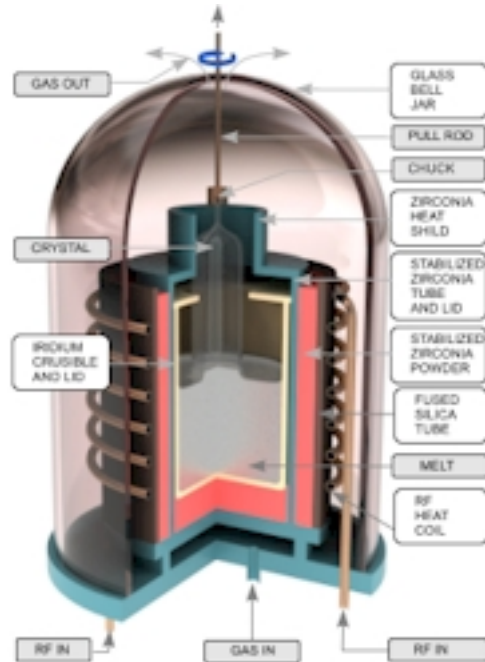


[According to a widely popular but controversial story, alexandrite was discovered by Nils Nordenskjöld, on the Tsarevich Alexander's sixteenth birthday on April 17, 1834 and named Alexandrite in honor of the future Tsar of the Russian](#)

See Alexandrite Tsarstone collectors guide, Alexandrite Gemstone Buyer and Jewelry Collector Guide, <http://www.alexandrite.net/viewpage.html?id=ALXS-002-00001> (Alexandrite gemstone buyer and jewelry collector guide holds information on history, lore, value and properties of the chrysoberyl varieties, including alexandrite and cymophane gemstones.) (as of).



Empire. [Eliphas Levi](#) , French author and magician, connects duality of color of alexandrite with a duality of human blood - venous and arterial and calling alexandrite "the favorite charm of our time which clears and strengthens the



blood vessels". [Knowing the difference between a synthetic and a natural alexandrite requires both experience and knowledge. Most gemstones described as synthetic alexandrite are actually synthetic corundum laced with vanadium and has been around for 100 years.](#)

See Alexandrite Tzarstone collectors guide, Alexandrite Gemstone Buyer and Jewelry Collector Guide, <http://www.alexandrite.net/viewpage.html?id=ALXS-002-00001> (Alexandrite gemstone buyer and jewelry collector guide holds information on history, lore, value and properties of the chrysoberyl varieties, including alexandrite and cymophane gemstones.) (as of).

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Timeline

1723 - 2000

According to a widely popular but controversial story, alexandrite was discovered by the Finnish mineralogist Nils Gustaf Nordenskjöld, (1792 -1866) on the tsaravitch Alexander´s sixteenth birthday on April 17, 1834 and named alexandrite in honor of the future Tsar of the Russian Empire.

History and mystery, fiction and reality, still the story of alexandrite is forever linked to the last of the Russian Tsars. More than any other gemstone, alexandrite has captured and captivated the interest of collectors and connoisseurs since its discovery in the Ural mountains almost 200 years ago. And despite its short history, this remarkable and very scarce gemstone has already been ascribed with a variety of magical properties, stories and a noble history.

See [Chronological History of Alexandrite](#)

The definitive guide - how to select, buy, care for and enjoy gemstone varieties of chrysoberyl

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