

Sapphire Fast Facts

Sapphire is:

- A gemstone variety of the mineral corundum, an aluminium oxide Al_2O_3
- Volcanic in origin and occurs in alluvial deposits from the weathering and erosion of volcanic rocks
- Derived from the Greek word 'sappheiros'-blue stone
- Found in a diverse range of colours including blue, green, yellow, gold, orange, pink, mauve and purple
- Coloured depending on the trace amounts of other elements such as iron, titanium or chromium
- Mainly dark blue or black in 'star stones' due to the high iron content
- Used predominantly in jewellery.

For more information on sapphire see [Wikipedia](#)



Sapphire – courtesy of Mineral Information Institute

