

FEBRUARY

Modern, Traditional and Ayurvedic - Amethyst
Mystical - Bloodstone
Other - Moonstone, Onyx

AMETHYST

- 7 on the Mohs scale of hardness
- The hour stone for 8am and the astrological stone for Aquarius
- Available in most cuts - cabochons, facets and rosecuts, as well as more fancy and unusual shapes due to their clarity and vibrancy.
- A symbol of status this gorgeous purple has been used in Royal and religious ceremonial jewellery over the years.

Amethyst was once as expensive as emerald until a large deposit was found in Brazil, bringing the price down.



COLOUR

A variety of quartz, amethyst ranges in colour from a deep purple colour to a lighter lilac hue and is from the same family as citrine and prasiolite (sometimes known as green amethyst.) Beautiful gems can occur in nature which are a combination of amethyst and citrine, the colour blending from orange to purple; this is known as ametrine.

NAME

The name derives from the Greek word “amethystos” meaning not intoxicated, and was thought to have powers to ward off drunkenness to keep the wearer clear-headed and quick witted.

MYTHS

There are many fascinating myths and legends surrounding this stone, one being that Dionysus, god of intoxication, lusted after Amethystos. The pure and chaste maiden prayed for protection from his advances and was turned into a pillar of white quartz. On realising what he had done, Dionysus repented and cried tears of wine, staining the crystal purple and creating amethyst.

Mystically, amethyst is said to strengthen intuition, bring peace and help to get in touch with one's inner self.

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