Gemstone Color Names vs. Actual Materials: A Guide to Our Collection

Gemstone Names & Buying Guide · https://imiyoo.com/FAQ/gemstone-color-names-vs-actual-materials-a-guide-to-our-collection/

You might fall in love with a color long before you know the gemstone's chemical name. Maybe it's a deep royal blue, a soft pink or a bright tropical green.

That's a great place to start. But when you're choosing a stone for custom jewelry, it's worth knowing one more thing: **the color name and the gemstone material aren't always the same.**

Why can a gemstone have two names?

A gemstone's **material** tells you what it's made of—such as corundum, spinel, emerald (beryl) or YAG.

A **color name** describes how a stone looks. Some come from familiar gemstone terms, while others are trade names or names for a particular shade.

For example, *Royal Blue* tells you something about the color you're looking for. *Corundum* tells you the material. Both details can be useful when you're choosing jewelry.

Two stones can look similar while being made of different materials. That can affect their properties, wear considerations and price.

Our ruby and sapphire color options: lab-grown corundum

Ruby and sapphire are two forms of **corundum**, a mineral known for its Mohs hardness of 9. With lab-grown corundum, you can explore more than classic red and blue.

Our corundum color selections include:

- **Reds and pinks:** Pigeon Blood Red, Ruby, Rubellite-Style, Padparadscha-Style Pink, Sakura, Morgan Pink and Purple Red.
- **Blues:** Royal Blue and Cornflower Blue.
- **Yellows and oranges:** Yellow, Canary Yellow, Golden Yellow, Orange, Morgan Orange and Padparadscha-Style Orange.
- **Other looks:** Mint, Violet and Alexander Color-Change.

All 18 names in this group refer to **lab-grown corundum** in our collection.

A few are especially easy to misunderstand:

Morgan Pink and Morgan Orange are color names for lab-grown corundum, not morganite (which is a variety of beryl).

Rubellite-Style is lab-grown corundum, not rubellite tourmaline.

Alexander Color-Change is color-change lab-grown corundum, not alexandrite (chrysoberyl).

Pigeon Blood Red is the name of one of our red color options; it isn't, by itself, a third-party color grade. Likewise, **Padparadscha-Style** describes a color look, not an independent certification.

If you love one of these shades, we'll help you understand the material as well as the color.

Our spinel options: three different color looks

Lab-grown spinel is a different gemstone material from corundum. It has a Mohs hardness of 8 and can be an appealing choice for colorful jewelry.

Our spinel-based selections are:

- **Jedi Spinel — lab-grown spinel**
- **Cobalt Blue Spinel — lab-grown spinel**
- **Aquamarine — usually lab-grown spinel**

One important detail: our **Aquamarine color option is not beryl aquamarine**. Its standard material is lab-grown spinel; a lab-grown corundum alternative may be available on request.

The words *Jedi* and *Cobalt Blue* describe the selections in our collection. They don't, on their own, guarantee a particular independent color grade or trace-element test result.

Our bright green and Paraiba-inspired options: man-made YAG

Some color looks in our collection use **YAG**, short for yttrium aluminum garnet. YAG is a manufactured crystal material, not a lab-grown version of the natural gemstone that inspired a color name.

Our YAG options are:

- **Tsavorite-Style Green — man-made YAG crystal**, not tsavorite garnet.
- **Paraiba-Style Clear — man-made YAG crystal**, not Paraiba tourmaline.
- **Paraiba-Style with Inclusions — man-made YAG crystal**, not Paraiba tourmaline.

The *with Inclusions* name refers to visible internal features. It doesn't mean those features formed naturally.

These options are useful when you're interested in a specific color appearance and want to explore materials other than the natural gems they resemble.

Our emerald colors: lab-grown emerald (beryl)

Our emerald options are different from the green YAG selections above: they are **lab-grown emerald**, a green variety of the mineral **beryl**.

We offer two color styles:

- **Zambia Emerald — lab-grown emerald (beryl)**
- **Colombia Emerald — lab-grown emerald (beryl)**

Both are hydrothermally grown lab-grown emeralds. *Zambia* and *Colombia* describe our color styles; they **do not mean the stones were mined in those countries**.

How do you choose between similar colors?

First, choose the look you love. Then compare the actual materials. A similar shade may be available in more than one gemstone type, but that doesn't mean the stones will have the same hardness, sparkle, inclusions or price.

If you're planning a ring you'll wear often, ask about durability and a protective setting. If you're choosing earrings or a pendant, you may have more flexibility with delicate shapes and exposed edges.

Have a photo of the color you're after? Send it along with your preferred shape and approximate size. We'll discuss the material options and check what's available before your jewelry is made.

Frequently asked questions

Is your Aquamarine color option natural aquamarine?

No. The standard stone is lab-grown spinel, with lab-grown corundum sometimes available by request. It isn't beryl aquamarine.

Are Morgan Pink and Morgan Orange actual morganite?

No. In our collection, both are lab-grown corundum color options.

Are your Paraiba-Style stones Paraiba tourmaline?

No. They're man-made YAG crystals with Paraiba-inspired color names.

Do Zambia Emerald and Colombia Emerald come from those countries?

No. Both are lab-grown emeralds, and those names describe color styles rather than mined origin.

Can I choose a certain shade in any size and cut?

Tell us what you're looking for, and we'll check. Not every color, material and cut is available in every combination.