



PERIDOT

First draft
March 2006

Pronounced	perry - doe
Origin	Peridot is gem quality olivine, a mineral that forms at high temperatures in volcanic rocks such as basalt.
Composition	$(Mg,Fe)_2SiO_4$
Structure	Orthorhombic
Colour	Olive or bottle green, transparent
Inclusions	Rutile (rare)
Sources	Crystals peridot comes from Brazil and occasionally from other sources.
Also	Peridot has always been associated with the month of August/Leo. However, company policy is to underplay alleged associations of months and star signs. Why? What about the other eleven months - it is absurd to imagine that peridot is only suited to 8.33% of the population. After 18 years of selling this stone, we believe it is suited to perhaps 95% of the population! However, it is likely that traditions (many dating from the 19 th century German jewellery trade!) will prove enduring and that sales in August and to Leos will remain high!

Most peridot crystals are small. It is now almost impossible to buy large cut stones with large beads disappearing completely. Crystals anticipates that difficulties with supplies will result in higher prices and smaller stone sizes. No doubt fashion will continue to swing from light to dark green. Stones with rutile inclusions are rare and especially beautiful.

Ros Mason March 2006
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