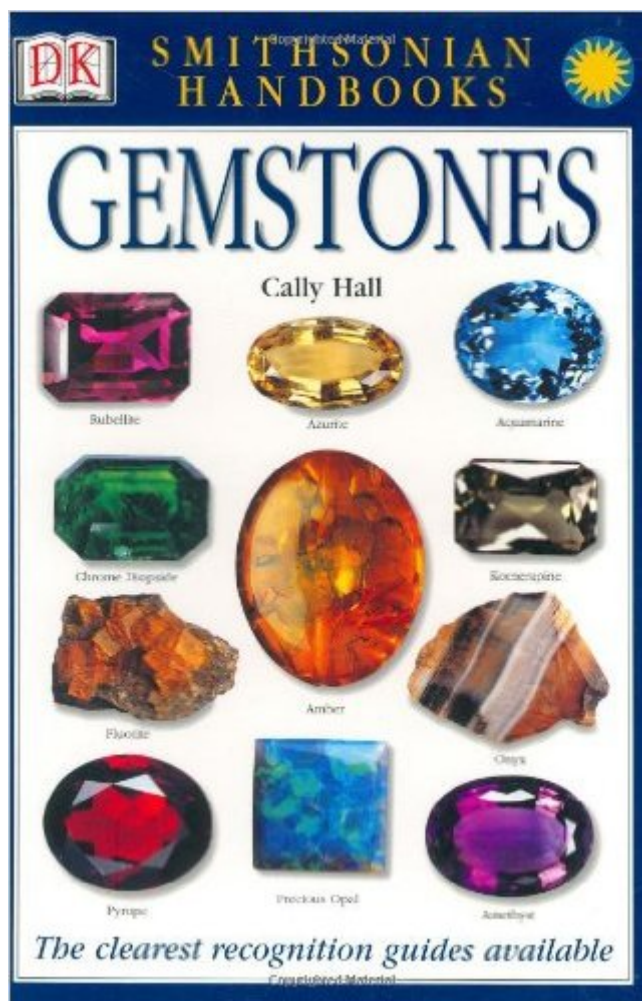


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# Smithsonian Handbooks: Gemstones



## Synopsis

Designed for beginners and experienced collectors alike, these field guides make identification of individual specimens sure, simple and straightforward. Each entry has a full color illustration as well as color-coded bands that provide at-a-glance facts for quick reference. Easy to use and beautiful to look at, this series is an invaluable resource for every collector.

## Book Information

Series: Smithsonian Handbooks

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 245 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #55,706 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in [Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Rocks & Minerals](#) #1065 in [Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology](#) #1389 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors](#)

## Customer Reviews

This is a truly worthwhile reference for gem lovers. Excellent photographs and enough technical detail for the amateur gemologist. Even if you do not collect gemstones this book will satisfy you.

good for a beginner looking for basic knowledge. lots of nice photos. I wouldnt recommend for in depth anything but its a nice book. copyrighted 2002 so.... its good for a middle school aged young person

Bought this as a gift for my mother. Both she and I were very impressed with the colorful pictures and nice descriptions of so many different gems. A great book that is practical yet informative, great job Smithsonian!!

This book has a lot of very interesting information about gemstones. I recently started collecting rings containing a variety of gemstones and wanted to know more about gems. This is a good book

to have on hand if you are starting to develop an interest in gems.

Great Book - very easy to read. I would suggest to have a dictionary close by because of the terminology. It has wonderful examples of beautifully cute gemstones that are from mined rocks. Of course it has gorgeous pictures of historical gems and jewels from the Smithsonian Museums. I love it and will buy the Smithsonian Rocks and Minerals next.PAJ

Nicely written with color photos.

For a general-interest guide to gemstones, this spectacular little book is remarkably thorough, authoritative, and comprehensive. Minerals are classified by color, crystal structure, composition, and hardness. History and geology are prominent subjects as well. The information throughout is well-organized, clearly-presented, and easy to reference. Best of all, the full-color visuals are absolutely stunning. The book--like its subject matter--is a spectacular marriage of science & art. A big thumbs-up!

Enjoying this book very much. Helpful and complete information on many gemstones. Dazzling photographs of the stones.

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