

Q. Do you guarantee your lab grown gems are really red beryl?

A. Yes! We have a 100% money back guarantee that our red beryl is genuine red beryl that is lab grown. There are 4 different things to compare crystals that are lab grown vs mined. First, lab grown crystals are larger. Second, lab grown crystals do not look beat-up, or fractured or included. Third, lab grown crystals have consistent top color. Fourth, and most importantly, lab grown crystals and gems are not nearly as expensive. Rick has been interested in red beryl since it became popular 15 years ago. He has mined crystals in the Thomas Range, Utah and purchased specimens from the original Violet Claim mine owners. There have been several labs producing red beryl and we have found only one that produces the top “stoplight red” colors and that grows crystals that are physically, chemically and optically identical to mined crystal. Lab grown simply means that man does in a lab, what Mother Nature does in the ground. The crystals are identical in composition and physical characteristics. After learning about this gem, it was evident that crystals out of the ground were not suitable for producing the quality gems we want to cut or sell. So, Rick decided to concentrate on the lab grown crystals. Stinson’s gems are delivered with our Certificate of Authenticity and are guaranteed authentic and to meet your standards of quality. We back this up with our 100 % money back guarantee of satisfaction.

Q. Can I return a red beryl if it is not the gem I want?

A. Absolutely. Your satisfaction is of paramount importance to us. If you order a gem and it does not suit you, you have 7 days after you receive it, to notify us. As long as the gem is undamaged, then WE WANT IT BACK!! We will give you instructions for returning the gem and after receipt, we’ll refund your money (in the same way you paid).

Q. Will red beryl make a good ring?

A. Yes! As with ANY gem, you should know something about it. First, it is one of the rarest gems. Larger gems cannot be easily replaced due to the scarcity of large crystals. Red beryl is something to be treasured and taken care of. With any jewelry, so much depends on the person wearing it and caring for the gem(s). Gems in the beryl family (emerald, aquamarine, heilidor, morganite and red beryl) generally make very good jewelry – because they have excellent hardness, are not heat sensitive, are not brittle; but like all gems, they demand respect and must have proper care.

Q. I’ve seen some red beryl gems that are cheaper, why are some of your stones higher priced?

A. You get what you pay for. Many dealers and most jewelers do NOT cut their own gems. They are middlemen, with no control of design, or craftsmanship. Some offer run-of-the-mill, native cuts from overseas, that are improperly cut, color may be OK, but they typically have minimal sparkle. They ARE cheap! Also, be sure to read the fine print on any guarantees and you will often find a lot of road blocks to get your money back, if you are not satisfied. We stand behind our gems with a solid money back guarantee of satisfaction. We cut our own gems and control stone quality, design and craftsmanship.

Q. I see some stones are very close in weight and size but different in price. Why is that?

A. There a couple of possibilities. First, such differences in pricing are made due to judgments about the clarity, design, symmetry or inclusions that show after a gem is finished. In the case of red beryl, most gems are eye clean. Even though flawed gems are normal for red beryl, and some customers only want flawed gems in this species, when one has some noticeable flaws that show after cutting, the price is reduced. The second reason for differences is that we don't have time to go back and forth, repricing everything that fluctuates in price. Gems are priced at the time of being cut and added to inventory, so generally there will be some variations.

Q. I want a one-of-a-kind red beryl -- can you do that? What does it cost?

A. Yes, we can. As long as we have or can get the rough that is suitable for the shape and size you want, we'll design and cut your special gem. Costs depend on the size, complexity of the cut and the carat weight of the finished piece. Many of our custom projects are in the \$400 to \$700 price range. Just email: stinsons@gemservice.com and let us know:

1. The shape and size, [square, round, emerald (rectangle) trillion (triangle) or cushion.] size in millimeters if possible. For a lady or gentleman?
2. How much you want to spend or approximate budget. We'll go as fancy/complex/unique as possible and keep within your budget.
3. Time frame. How soon do you need the finished piece? Note: Rick is usually booked solid with custom orders so it's best to order 8 to 12 weeks in advance. Custom cut gems for special occasions, anniversaries, birthdays, Valentine's, Mother's, engagements, Christmas gifts should be ordered NOW!!

Q. I have some red beryl crystals that I would like to have cut. What do you charge?

A. We only cut gems from our own stock. We do NOT cut red beryl crystals that come out of the ground! Wish it were not so, but they are best left as mineral specimens. We have looked at hundreds of crystals over the last decade and have never found a single one priced under \$10K, that we wanted to cut! They are too included, fractured, too small and way too expensive! We urge our customers to beware of "natural" gems on the market as many are "filled" to enhance clarity and thus increase the price. Any treatment should be disclosed to the buyer.

Q. Some small red beryl gems look lighter in color. Are they something different?

A. They are cut from exactly the same crystals as the larger gems. The difference is due to the thickness of the final gem. Smaller gems mean less thickness. And any time a gem crystal --or any transparent or translucent material is decreased in thickness, the color will be lighter. The same goes for larger gems. More depth means deeper color. Some dark colors like deep green tourmaline, red garnet, smoky quartz, etc., may be so dark in large sizes, that it's hard to get light to reflect so gems may not have as much sparkle. Red beryl isn't usually affected, except in a few extremely large sizes over 10mm in diameter. Smaller red beryls are also very firey red.

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