

Gem Stones at the NHM

Gemstones, gem materials, gem rough and worked objects have been collected alongside mineral specimens for over 270 years, creating one of the world's most outstanding mineralogical collections, housed in the Natural History Museum, London. Some 5,000 of the 185,000 specimens are gemstones or worked objects and constitute the Gem Collection. Learn more about the history of the Gem Collection, some of its highlights, and take a look at the science behind what gives these gem materials their beautiful array of colours.