



Ruby

STONE: *Ruby*

COLORS: Medium to dark red; may also include orangy red

HARDNESS: 9

OPTIMAL

CRITERIA: Deep color and evenness of color are the most important criteria. However, since large Rubies are rarer than diamonds, weight also plays a critical factor, especially for clean stones. Rubies are known for their durability and hardness.

CARE &

MAINTENANCE: Use a soft cloth with water or water and mild soap.
Care must always be given to how the stone is handled.

BACKGROUND: Rubies have a long and interesting history. Marco Polo first wrote of the gemstone during his trips to China.

FOLKLORE: In the 16th Century, it was believed that Rubies could preserve the owner's health and would warn of impending danger.