

Mineral of the Month Club



Offering Sheet January 2016

The specimens this month come from China, Morocco, Madagascar, and our own state of New York. The color of these specimens range from gleaming, metallic silvery-black in the hematite to bright green in the tremolite and deep rust-red in the quartz with hematite ; crystal habits include prismatic, massive, and botryoidal . And for all you fossil lovers we have another fossil this month, it is a 200-million-year-old “sand dollar” marine fossil.

Our Mineral of the Month Club manager Christine and her assistant Lora agreed unanimously on this month’s “Pick.” **“Christine and Lora’s Pick”** is the quartz with hematite from China. We just love the long, terminated, hexagonal prisms of quartz coated with a dusting of red hematite paired with the black hematite rosettes that grace the matrix on most if not all of these specimens. Simply breath taking and very good quality for sure!

Take a gander of what we have and let Christine or Lora know what you will be adding to your collection.

Warmest Regards,

Dimitri, Mary, Christine, and Lora



Specimen size: 1.0" x 2.0" to 3.5" x 4.0"

Price: \$65.00- \$225.00

Quartz with Hematite **Christine and Lora's Pick of the Month**

Collected at the Jinlong Mine in Guangdong Province, China, these are composite specimens of quartz, or silicon dioxide, and hematite, or iron oxide. Long, well-formed quartz prisms are coated with particulate, red hematite and project outward from a matrix of stacked, micaceous plates of silvery-black hematite.

What is truly interesting is that it is a composite specimen consisting of long quartz prisms with two distinctly different forms of hematite.

These were another Tucson 2015 purchase.



Specimen sizes: 1.5" x 3.0" to 2.5" x 4.0"

Price: \$30.00- \$75.00

Hematite var. Botryoidal

Collected at the Irhoud Mine at Taouz, Safi Province, Morocco, these specimens of specular hematite, or iron oxide, are classic examples of the botryoidal habit. Their surfaces consist of smooth, grape-like, opaque clusters of hematite with a glassy luster and a silvery-black color. Their highly reflective, botryoidal surfaces appear to be polished, but are completely natural.



Tremolite var. Chrome

Traces of chromium color these specimens of tremolite, or basic calcium magnesium silicate, a bright green. Collected from the metamorphic formations at the Gouverneur Talc Company quarry at Balmat, New York, these specimens consist of a layer of small, but well developed, compacted, transparent-to-translucent, lime-green tremolite crystals atop a layer of white tremolite.

Specimen size: 1.0" x 1.5" x 2.5" x 3.0"
Price range: \$25.00- \$55.00



Mepygurus (Sea Urchin, Fossil)

These "sand dollar" fossils are the silicified exoskeletons of burrowing sea urchins of the order *Clypeastaroida*, genus *Mepygurus*.

Each shows wonderful detail of the five-fold, radial-symmetry pore structures of the original shell. Collected at Sakaraha, Madagascar, these Jurassic fossils are 200 million years ago.

Polished to intensify their rich, yellow-brown colors and to reveal fossil detail, these specimens are suitable for use both as fine display pieces or to grace your home décor, even as paperweights.

Specimen size: 2.5" x 2.5" to 3.25" x 3.25"
Price range: \$30.00- \$65.00

Still Available From Last Month:



Specimen sizes: 2.5" x 3.5" to 5" x 5.5"
Price: \$95.00 - \$225.00

Fluorite

Collected in Henan Province, China, these specimens consist of botryoidal masses of translucent-to-opaque, lilac-colored fluorite, or calcium fluoride.

The botryoidal surface is made up of joined, hemispherical groups of fluorite, each with a soft, frosty luster. These specimens are examples of one of the more unusual fluorite colors and forms.

These beauties were picked up at this years West Springfield Massachusetts Gem and Mineral Show.

There are some nice large cabinet display pieces.



Specimen size: 1.25" X 1.5" TO 3" X 7"
Price range: \$35.00- \$ 125.

Chrysocolla with Calcite

These mineralogically and historically interesting specimens are from the Chimney Rock Quarry in Somerset County, New Jersey, which was a source of copper during the Revolutionary War. These colorful, composite specimens consist of bright, greenish-blue chrysocolla with well-formed, terminated crystals of transparent-to-translucent, white calcite. They were part of a collection that was assembled in the 1970s before the quarry closed.



Specimen size: 2" x 3" x 1" to 5" x 6" x 2"
Price range: \$95.00 - \$325.00

Galena & Calcite, or Pyrite & Calcite, or Sphalerite & Calcite

These composite specimens of galena, calcite, pyrite, and sphalerite are from Madan, Bulgaria.

The galena, or lead sulfide, appears as modified cubes with lustrous, silvery-gray faces; the sphalerite, or zinc sulfide, as smaller, black tetrahedrons; and the pyrite as small, glittering, brassy bits.

These metal sulfides are set amid a cluster of terminated, transparent calcite crystals and make complex, eye-catching display pieces.

Just let us know which minerals catch your eye and we will find the perfect match.

Further Information

We love to hear from our members, so please call or email anytime!

Discounts available: If you order 4 or more minerals from the Featured Mineral letter and/or the offering sheet you will receive a 10% discount on your mineral purchase.

Ordering: To place an order you can call #800-941-5594 or email christlne@celestiaearthminerals.com

Shipping: As always, shipping is free in the United States.

Specimen size: All our specimens are approximate in size.

Method of payment: We accept, Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, PayPal and checks.

Please make checks payable to Celestial Earth Stones.

Wish lists... If you are looking for something specific, please let us know and we will do our best to find it for you!

