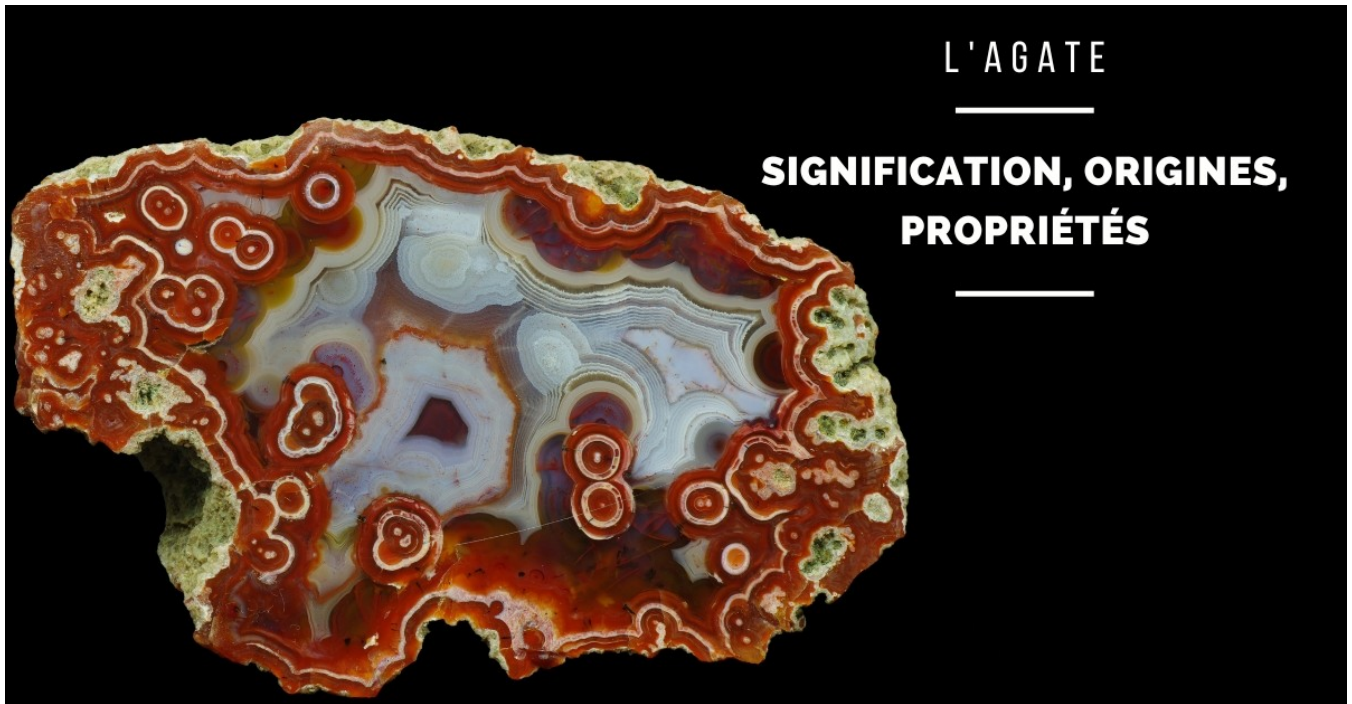


## AGATE: MEANING, ORIGINS AND PROPERTIES

By : Laurence T Perles&Co



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Agate is appreciated in jewelry for its incredible palette of colors and its numerous patterns.  
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#### What does "Agate" mean?

The name of this natural stone comes from the river Achates (now Drillo river in Sicily), where it was first discovered in large quantities.

#### The origin of agate

For many civilizations, this fine stone is linked to the gods and goddesses. In Greek mythology, it symbolizes Gaia, the primordial goddess of the Earth, considered the mother of all creation. The Romans associated it with Aurora, the goddess of the dawn. For the Celts, the agate represents Ceridwen, the Welsh goddess of death and fertility.

From ancient times, the Romans and Greeks used agate to make jewelry such as rings and bracelets, but also ornaments and decorative objects, such as vases and vessels. Among the Greeks, a legend tells us that King Mithridates the Great owned more than 4000 vessels made of agate.

#### What are the properties of agate?

Agate is a stone with a hardness between 6.5 and 7 on the Mohs scale and a density between 2.58 and 2.64.

#### What are the colors of agate?

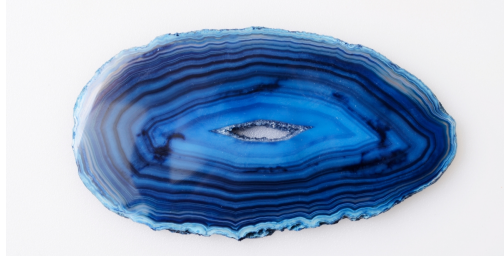
This fine stone (formerly known as "semi-precious stone") comes in many forms, with different patterns and a wide range of colors (white, green, gray, blue, pink, red, purple, brown, black ... and even multicolored). Its striped or speckled appearance is due to the presence of tiny crystals that grow concentrically around a core (this is called a microcrystalline structure).

Agate is easily dyed to offer a wide range of colors not found in nature.



#### What are the different agates?

- Red agate: it owes its red or orange color to the presence of iron oxide in its composition.
- Blue agate: it has several shades of blue, ranging from light blue and translucent to deeper blue and opaque. It owes its blue color to the presence of mineral impurities.
- Grey agate: its color varies from light and pale gray to a darker gray, almost black.
- Green agate: its color goes from light and translucent green to deeper and opaque green. Bands and patterns may be present.
- Black agate: these are mineral impurities that give it its characteristic dark color.
- Orange agate: its color varies from a bright orange to a deeper reddish orange.
- Indian agate: it is known for its diversity of patterns and colors, ranging from white to gray, through beige, brown, red, green, blue and purple. They may have bands, swirling patterns, inclusions or iridescence effects.
- Tree agate: it is also called dendritic agate. It owes its name to the specific inclusions in the shape of a tree or vegetation of brown or black color.
- Moss agate: if you look at it closely, you get the impression that it contains a small piece of moss.
- Botswana agate: it owes its name to its country of origin, Botswana in Africa.
- Agate crazy: it is a stone which presents patterns (band, stain, swirl...) and colors (white, gray, beige, brown, red, green, blue, purple...) varied and vibrant.
- Purple Lace agate: it is distinguished by its lace patterns and its color ranging from purple to lavender through deep purple.
- Blue Lace agate: it has the same patterns as the previous one, but with a color that varies from light blue to sky blue through pale turquoise.
- Fire agate: its color varies from bright red to orange through yellow and golden brown. It has shimmering or luminous inclusions that evoke the movement of flames in a blazing fire.



#### Where is agate found?

Agate stone is found in many parts of the world. The main deposits are in Germany, Australia (green, yellow, pink or red striped agate) or the United States, but it is also found in Brazil, Morocco, Mexico, Uruguay, Madagascar or China.

#### What are the benefits of agate?

In lithotherapy, this gemstone is considered a protective stone and a stone of harmony. It would make it possible to mitigate any type of energy blockage. It is reputed to balance energies, help to calm emotions, regain self-confidence, bring sincerity and reduce stress and anxiety.

Depending on their color, the gemstones will act on different chakras:

- Red, black, orange and yellow agates are linked to the root chakra, the sacral chakra and the solar plexus.
- Blue and purple agates are associated with the throat chakra and the Third Eye.
- Green and pink agates act on the heart chakra.
- Beige or white agates act on the coronal chakra.

#### How to recharge agate?

For agate to regain its full energy, it must be purified and recharged regularly.

To clean it, it is advisable to soak it in a container filled with distilled water or fresh water with a little salt, for a few hours. Then wipe it with a soft cloth.

To recharge it, the best method is to put it in the sun for a few hours. You can also put it on a quartz cluster or an amethyst geode. This works for all agates. But, be careful, blue agates will prefer moonlight.

#### How to wear agate?

Generally, cool colored agates are mounted on jewelry made with silver-colored primers, such as 925 silver, stainless steel or rhodium-plated metal. For warm colored agates, gold color and Gold Filled, 3 micron Gold Plated, 925 Gold Silver, Gold Stainless Steel or 24k Gold plated metal are preferred.

In lithotherapy, it is advisable to associate agates with other gemstones according to the desired effects:

- for a stimulating effect: associate a blue agate with a fluorite, a larimar, an apatite, an amazonite or an aquamarine.
- for a calming effect: marry a fire agate with a camellian, a citrine or a red jasper.

Be careful not to combine them with stones with opposing energies. Avoid, for example, wearing a black agate with a rose quartz or a blue agate with an onyx. Putting them together would cancel out their benefits. But, you can of course associate them with any stones you wish, according to your taste.



Result