

Opals

Trade Standards Act 1979

If you purchase an opal product the opal dealer must give you a written receipt describing the product as belonging to one of the following classes.

Classification	Description
Solid Opal (Classification A)	Opal that has been mined and is presented in one piece either in its naturally occurring state or after being cut and polished. It has not been chemically treated and has no other materials cemented to it other than by nature.
Laminated Opal (Classification B)	A thin layer of solid opal that is fixed to a base of opaque material (a doublet), or a doublet with a fixed clear top (a triplet).
Matrix Opal (Classification C1)	Host rock which is impregnated with natural opal which cannot be readily separated from that host rock.
Treated Opal (Classification C2)	Solid opal or matrix opal that has been treated chemically or by other means to enhance its appearance.
Synthetic Opal	Material that has the same chemical and physical structure and has the same appearance as naturally occurring opal but which has been manufactured.
Imitation Opal	Artificial material resembling naturally occurring opal but which does not have its physical and chemical structure.

