

LABRADORITE

Chemical formula: $(Ca,Na)Al_2Si_2O_8$ Hardness: 6 - 6.5

The Fascinating Feldspar

If blue is your hue and you like a little magic in your gemstones, Labradorite is for you!

As a member of the Feldspar family, Labradorite is first cousin to sunstone and moonstone. Its deep grey body color enhances its colorful **Schiller** phenomenon—that ethereal glow that appears to move across the surface of the stone in waves when you look at it from different angles. The darker the body color, the more the colors “pop.”

As you might surmise, Labradorite is found in Labrador (in Newfoundland, Canada). It also comes from a lot of other places, including Mexico, the U.S. and South America, as well as Norway and Finland. Exceptionally fine material from Finland is sometimes known as “Spectralite.” Madagascar is another important source.

In general, Labradorite is one of the more affordable of the phenomenal gems—although the very finest, most dramatic material is very rare and therefore commands a higher price. Labradorite beads can offer tremendous visual appeal at very reasonable prices—*check them out!*



1. Strand of large Labradorite rondel beads with sterling silver clasp
2. **Pamela Froman:** 18K Labradorite Royal Cap pendant earrings
3. **Whitney Robinson:** Sterling silver and Labradorite waterfall necklace
4. **Pamela Froman:** Spectralite and diamond ring in 18K crushed gold
5. **Alex Šepkus:** Sticks and Stones earrings with Spectralite drops
6. **Audrius Krulis:** Silver and gold Splash ring with checkerboard cut Labradorite cabochon and diamond accents, three views
7. 14,968.54 carat Labradorite specimen from Hanna's mineral collection
8. **Pamela Froman:** 18K Scroll Crush Labradorite Mommy Earrings
9. **Alex Šepkus:** Labradorite and moonstone bracelet with 18K Flora beads and Lilies clasp



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