



CALCITE

*Calcite is the stable form of the widely distributed mineral calcium carbonate. It is noted for its beautiful varieties and its perfect crystals. Calcite is the primary mineral component of limestone and its metamorphic form, marble. It is very soluble in groundwater and is common in the shells of invertebrates like clams and oysters. Calcite has more than 600 distinct crystal forms. It ranges from white or colorless through a great variety of colors -- pink, red, yellow, greenish, bluish, lavender, brown or black -- depending on its impurities. It is found in tens of thousands of localities and has become a specialty of mineral collectors.*



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