



Rhodochrosite



Rhodochrosite is a translucent to transparent, ranging in colors from white to pink, to red. It is a manganese carbonate, found in hydrothermal veins alongside copper, silver, and lead, and also be used as manganese ore. When exposed to air, Rhodochrosite tends to form a dark rind as it oxidizes. It is generally a massive, nodular or botryoidal form, however the rare transparent rhombohedral crystals can also be found. It has a hardness of 3.5 - 4. on the Mohs scale, has a white streak, and is soluble in warm hydrochloric acid. Due to its soft nature and beautiful commonly banded colors, this mineral is often used as a carving medium, but is rarely faceted. Its chemical composition is $MnCO_2$. Its name comes from Greek, literally meaning rose - colored.



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhodochrosite>

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