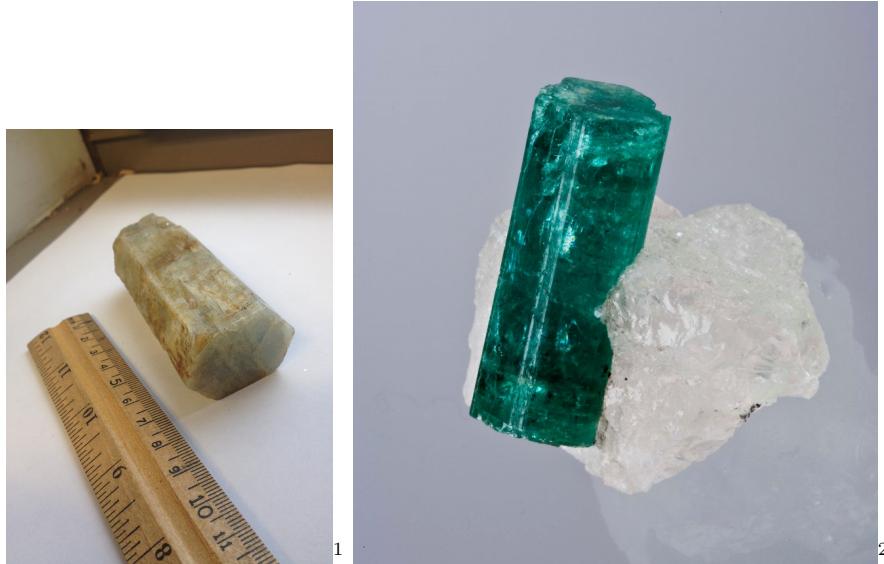


# Beryl

Benjamin Bass

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**General Mineral Formula:**  $\text{Al}_2\text{Be}_3\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{18}$

**Mineral Chemical Class:** Cyclosilicates

**Specific Gravity:** 2.6-2.9

**Hardness:** 7.5-8

**Cleavage:** 3,1 - Strong Basal

**Luster:** Vitreous, waxy

**Streak:** Colorless

**Characteristic Color(s):** Light to emerald green, light to deep sky-blue and a wide range.

**Crystal System:** Hexagonal

**Crystal Class:** 6/m 2/m 2/m

**Crystal Description (common forms, habit, etc.):** Often crystallizes in perfect, six-sided hexagons. Crystals are usually as individual prismatic hexagons. Crystals may be enormous. Can also be short and stubby.

<sup>1</sup>Strong basal cleavage, hardness of 8

<sup>2</sup>Perfect, 6-sided hexagons. Short, stubby, individual crystals.

**Environment (where you find the material):** Beryl is most well-known from granite pegmatites. It can also be found in metamorphosed mica schists and in igneous rhyolite deposits.

**Common Mineral Associations (in samples, also consult text, notes):** Quartz, Muscovite, Albite, Orthoclase, Calcite, Pyrite

**Scientific Usage/Significance:** Primary source for metallic beryllium.

**Industrial or Social Use/Significance:** Beryl with Cr is called Emerald and is a very valuable gemstone.

**Environmental Significance:** Source of Be.