DIS-MIN-US-NC-Pyrope Garnet-Macon County

This variety of pyrope from Macon County, North Carolina, is a violet-red shade and has been called *rhodolite*, Greek for "rose". In chemical composition it may be considered as essentially an isomorphous mixture of pyrope and almandine, in the proportion of two parts pyrope to one part almandine.

Pyrope (from the Greek *pyrōpós* meaning "fire-eyed") is red in color and chemically an aluminium [silicate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silicate) with the formula Mg3Al2(SiO4)3, though the magnesium can be replaced in part by calcium and ferrous iron. The color of pyrope varies from deep red to black.

The name *Almandine* is a corruption of [Alabanda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alabanda), a region in [Asia Minor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia_Minor) where these stones were cut in ancient times. Chemically, almandine is an iron-aluminium garnet with the formula Fe3Al2(SiO4)3; the deep red transparent stones are often called precious garnet and are used as gemstones (being the most common of the gem garnets). Almandine occurs in [metamorphic rocks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metamorphic_rock) like [mica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mica) [schists](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schist), associated with minerals such as [staurolite](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Staurolite), [kyanite](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kyanite), [andalusite](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andalusite), and others.

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| **Mineral name** | **Formula** | **Crystal system** | **Point group** | **Space group** |
| [Pyrope](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pyrope) | Mg3Al2(SiO4)3 | isometric | m3m | Ia3d |
| [Almandine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Almandine) | Fe2+3Al2(SiO4)3 | isometric | m3m | Ia3d |