

LMHC Information Sheet # 4

Corundum

- Padparadscha sapphire definition
- Padparadscha sapphire report wording

Members of the Laboratory Manual Harmonisation Committee (LMHC) have standardised the nomenclature that they use to describe a 'padparadscha sapphire'.

Definition

Padparadscha sapphire is a variety of corundum from any geographical origin whose colour is a **subtle mixture of pinkish** orange to orangey pink with pastel tones and low to medium saturations when viewed in standard daylight.

The name 'padparadscha sapphire' **shall not** be applied in the following cases:

If the stone has any colour modifier other than pink or orange

If the stone has major uneven colour distribution when viewed with the unaided eye and table up +/- 30°

The presence of yellow or orange epigenetic material in fissure(s) affecting the overall colour of the stone

If the stone has been treated as described in Information Sheets #2 and #3

If the stone has been treated by irradiation

If the colour of the stone is not stable and shifting out of the padparadscha colour range (e.g. shifting to pink) by a colour stability test

If the stone has been dyed, coated, painted, varnished or sputtered.

Report wording

Any corundum that falls within the above definition shall be described as,

Identification:

Species: (natural)¹ corundum

Variety: (natural)² padparadscha (sapphire)¹

Note: All terminology applied to corundum and set forth in Information Sheet #1 shall also be applied to 'padparadscha sapphire'. The name 'padparadscha sapphire' shall be applied to both unheated and heated 'padparadscha sapphire'.

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¹ wording in parenthesis is optional.

² wording in parenthesis is optional and shall only be used for natural untreated stones