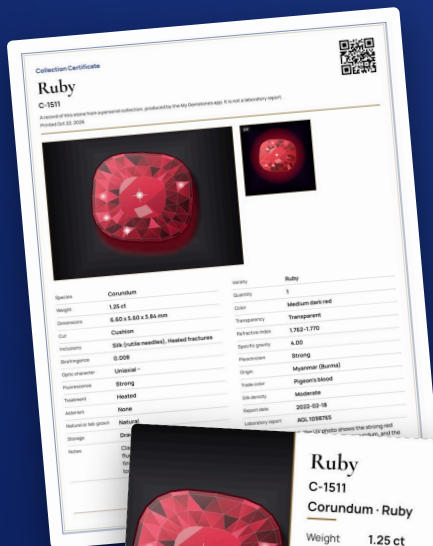
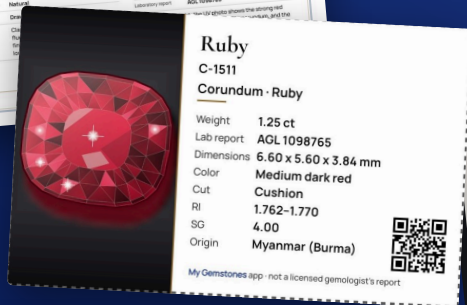
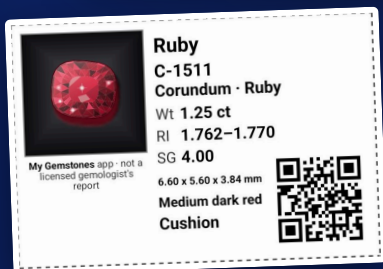
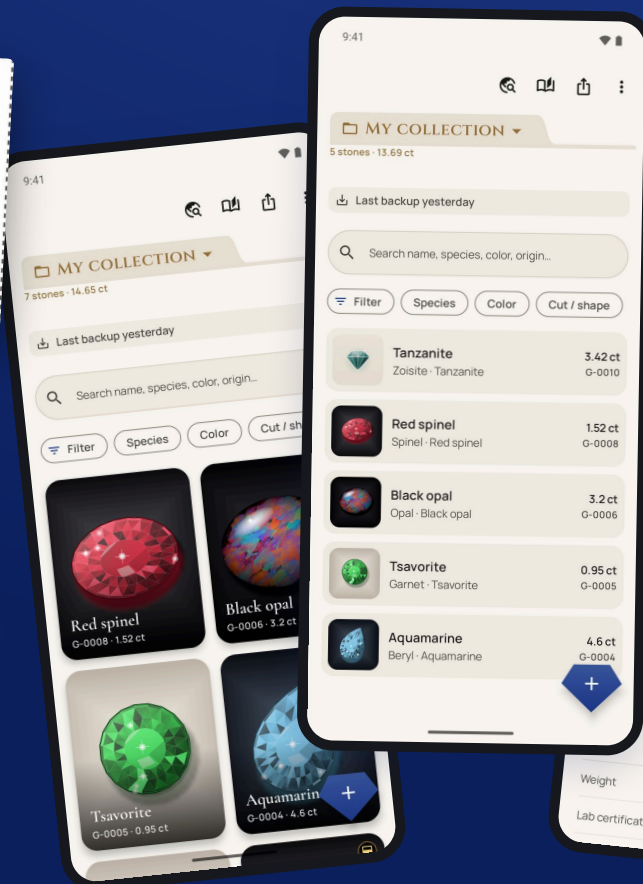
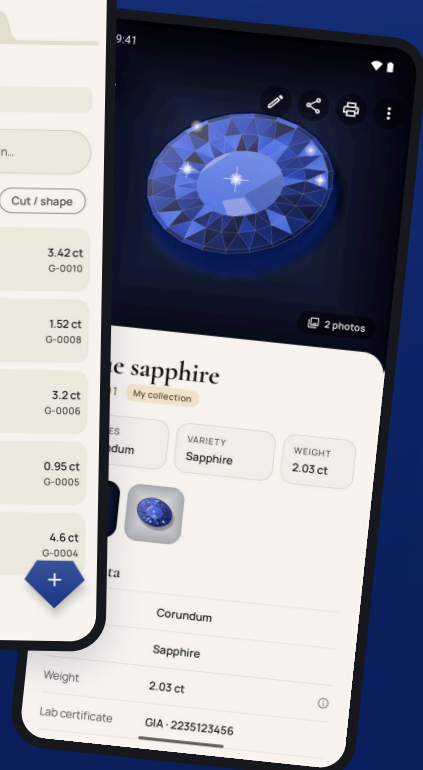


INSTRUCTION MANUAL

My Gemstones

Photograph, catalog, identify, print and share your gem collection, with everything kept on your phone.



Version 0.17.0 · October 2026
Android 14 and newer

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Welcome

The My Gemstones app is a cataloging/archive solution for stone collectors and gemologists. Each stone gets its own page with photos and gem data; the app helps you identify stones from your readings, tells you about each kind of stone, prints labels, cards and certificates, and lets you share stones with other collectors.

Everything you enter stays on your phone, with no account and no cloud. **My Gemstones** has no ads and no internet permission; **My Gemstones Free** holds 50 stones and shows ads, which need the internet.

The app opens with a short welcome screen (tap to continue; you can turn it off in Settings). The **Sample library** folder holds a ruby, an emerald and a sapphire filled in as examples; edit or delete them as you like.

Disclaimers

- **Prices:** the rough range is a table built into the app of typical retail asking prices per carat, put together with AI help in 2026 from general published price information. It is not from a licensed price guide and is not updated. Quality, cut, treatment and origin can move a real price far outside it.
- **Identification:** property ranges for about 115 stones, checked against Gemdat.org, the International Gem Society and the GIA Gem Encyclopedia.
- **Stone histories:** written with AI help from GIA, Mindat, IGS, Gemdat and standard gemology books; each page lists its sources.

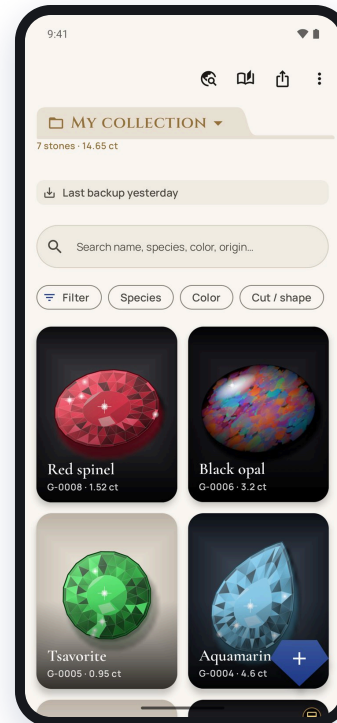
Everything in the app is for information only and is not a gemological report, appraisal or valuation. Have important stones tested by an accredited laboratory.

1 The main screen

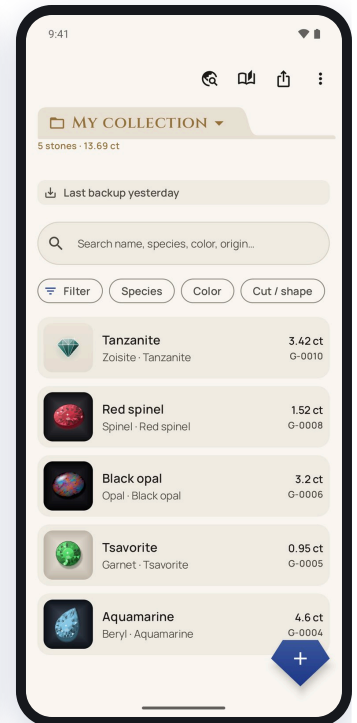
The main screen shows the stones in the current folder as thumbnails. Each thumbnail shows the photo, the name, the stone number and weight, a *N badge when one entry stands for several stones, and a gold certificate badge when the stone has a lab certificate (no badge when it doesn't). **Settings → Thumbnail size** switches between a **List** (the default) and Small, Medium or Large thumbnails.

Folders

The folder tab at the top shows the folder you are in. Tap it to switch folders, see **All stones**, or create, rename and delete folders. Each folder's menu has **Share folder**. Sold stones go to the **Sold** folder; stones saved without a name or species go to **Unknown**.



Main screen



List view (Settings)

Search, filters and sort

Type in the search box to find stones by name, species, color, origin or number (both C-0012 and G-0012 find stone 12). **Filter** narrows by species, color and origin; the chips sort by species, color, cut or dimensions; tap the selected chip again to go back to newest first. In a long list, drag the thin bar at the left edge to jump through thousands of stones.

Selecting stones

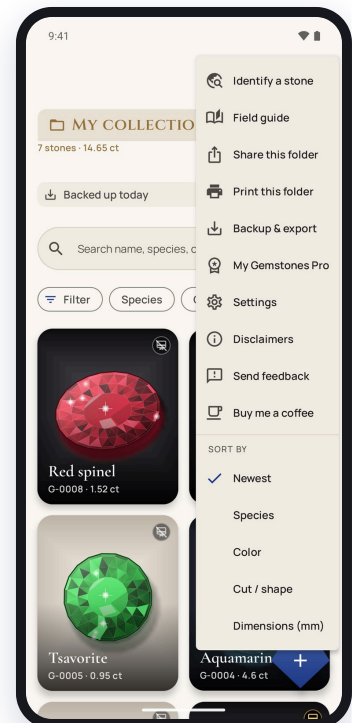
Press and hold a thumbnail to select it, then tap others. With stones selected you can print, share, move them to another folder or a new one, change one field on all of them (**Edit field**), mark them sold or delete them.

The top bar and the : menu

The icons at the top open **Identify a stone**, the **Field guide** and **Share**. The **:** menu lists every tool in words:

- **Identify a stone** and **Field guide**
- **Share all stones** / **Share this folder**
- **Print all stones** / **Print this folder**
- **Backup & export**
- **Settings**, **Disclaimers** and **Feedback?**
- **Invite a friend** (sends a friend the link to the app) and **About**

The round diamond button at the bottom right adds a new stone.



The : menu

2 Adding a stone

Tap the diamond button. The form opens with **Scan certificate or label** at the top (section 3), then photos and the stone's details. Only what you know needs filling in; you can come back with **Edit** any time. Tap **Save** when done.

Photos

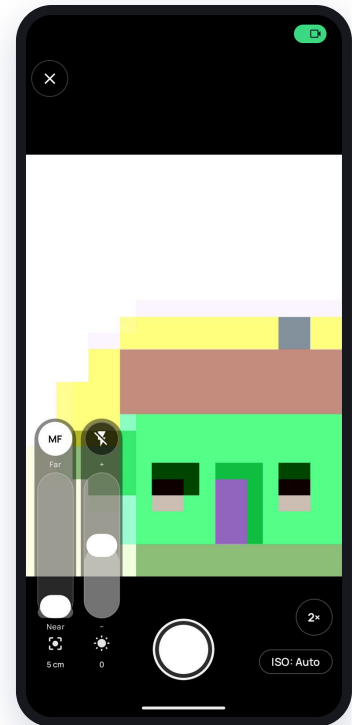
Tap **Camera** or **Gallery**. The first photo is the main one, used on thumbnails, cards and labels; add as many as you like. Each camera photo can be cropped. **UV photos** further down keep a record of fluorescence.

The close-up camera

The camera is set up for stones held close to the lens:

- It opens in **manual focus (MF)** at the closest distance the lens can focus.
- Two vertical bars sit in the lower left, under your thumb: **Focus** (near at the bottom, far at the top) and **Light** (brightness). Slide them while you watch the stone.
- **ISO** (next to the shutter) switches to manual exposure and shows the ISO and shutter speed sliders; the Light bar steps aside while it is on. Tap **ISO** again to go back to automatic.
- **AF/MF** switches to autofocus and back; tap the screen to focus on a spot in AF. The light button turns on the torch; **2×** magnifies the preview to help you focus, but the photo is still the whole normal picture, ready to crop.
- The phone's back camera with the closest focus is chosen first; switch cameras if you have a macro lens or a USB microscope.

Tip: every phone has a minimum focus distance (often 5 to 10 cm). If the stone stays blurry with the Focus bar at the bottom, move the phone back a little and use **2×** to see it bigger while you focus.



Focus and Light bars (the picture is the emulator's test scene)

The form

Under each field is a one-line description with an example; the ⓘ button opens the Field guide page for that field. Once you know the form, **Hide field tips** in the form's : menu hides the descriptions. Most fields have a pick-list (tap the arrow) and also take your own text.

SECTION	WHAT GOES IN IT
Identity	Folder, name, species, variety, weight (ct), quantity, lab certificate
Gem data	RI, birefringence, SG, optic character, pleochroism, fluorescence, transparency, inclusions
Appearance	Color, cut / shape, dimensions (L × W × D mm)
Origin	Origin, treatment
Acquisition	Date, seller, price paid (kept off prints unless you choose)
Notes	Anything else; shown as a yellow sticky note on the stone page
Custom fields	Your own fields, e.g. Hardness or Storage box

Species sections

When you pick a species, a section made for it appears, like **Corundum details** or **Opal details**. For example: diamond color, clarity and cut grades, polish, symmetry and natural or lab-grown; opal type, body tone N1 to N9, brightness, pattern and construction; garnet type; pearl type, luster and nacre. There are sections for 22 species.

Lab certificate

Tick **Lab certificate (e.g. GIA)** under the quantity if the stone has a lab report, then choose the laboratory (GIA, AGL, GRS, SSEF, Gübelin and others) and type the report number.

A certified stone's number starts with **C** instead of **G**: G-0042 becomes C-0042 as soon as you tick the box. Labels printed earlier with G-0042 still find the stone.

Possible stones

At the bottom of the form, a live list shows which stones fit the readings you have entered so far. Tap **Use** to fill in species and variety.

9:41

× Edit G-0006 Save

OPAL DETAILS

Details specific to opal. Tap the ⓘ for what each one means.

Type: Black ⓘ

The trade type, set mostly by body tone and base: black, white, crystal, boulder, matrix.

Body tone: N2

Darkness of the body color. N1 (black) to N9 (white): N1–N4 dark, N5–N6 medium, N7–N9 light.

Brightness: B2 (bright)

How strong the play of color is in good light. B1 (brilliant) to B5 (dull).

Play-of-color pattern: Harlequin

How the color patches are arranged, e.g. Harlequin or Pinfire.

Dominant colors: Green, Blue, Orange, Red

The spectral colors that show most in the play of color. Pick as many as apply.

Construction: Solid

Solid is all opal; a doublet is opal on a backing; a triplet adds a clear cap on top.

The Opal details section

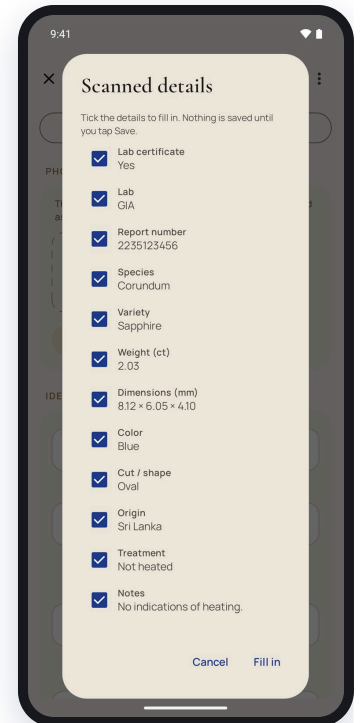
3 Scanning a certificate or label

Instead of typing, let the app read a lab report, a dealer's card or a stone label.

1. On the Add stone form, tap **Scan certificate or label** at the top.
2. Tap **Take photo** and photograph the document flat and in good light, or **Choose image** for a photo or screenshot you already have (for example a PDF report saved as a picture).
3. The app lists what it found: lab and report number, species and variety, weight, dimensions, color, cut, origin, treatment and comments. Untick anything that is wrong.
4. Tap **Fill in**. Check the form and tap **Save**; nothing is saved until you do.

When the report has a lab name, the certificate box is ticked for you and the stone gets a C number.

Good to know: the text is read on the phone by Google's ML Kit, which is built into the app; the picture is never uploaded. It reads printed Latin letters (English and other European languages); handwriting and very small or glossy print may be misread, so always check the values.



Scanned details from a GIA report

4 The stone page

Tap a thumbnail to open the stone's page: swipe the photos, then scroll through its details. Swipe left or right across the page to go to the next stone.

- **Lab certificate** shows the lab and report number, or None.
- **Estimated value** gives a rough price range from the species or variety and the weight. Tap **Where does this price come from?** to read how it was made.
- **Notes** appear on a yellow sticky note, title and all, so they stand out.

History

When the species is known, the square **History** button opens the stone's page from the Field guide: its names through history, where it is found, varieties, what to look for, treatments and imitations to watch for, and the story of its discovery.

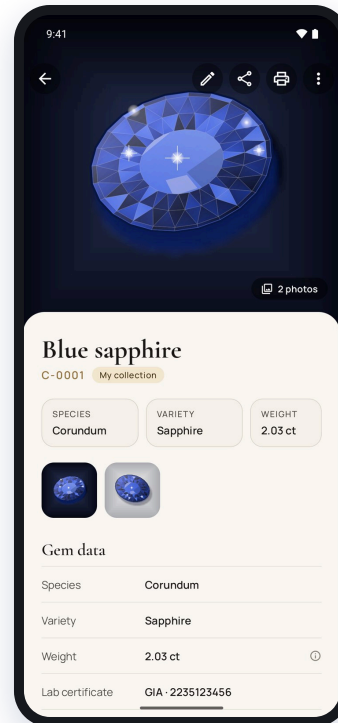
Suggest identification

The last button compares the stone's readings with about 115 stones and shows the best matches in a pop-up, with a tick for each reading that fits. Tap **Use** to set the species and variety, or **Open identifier** for the full list.

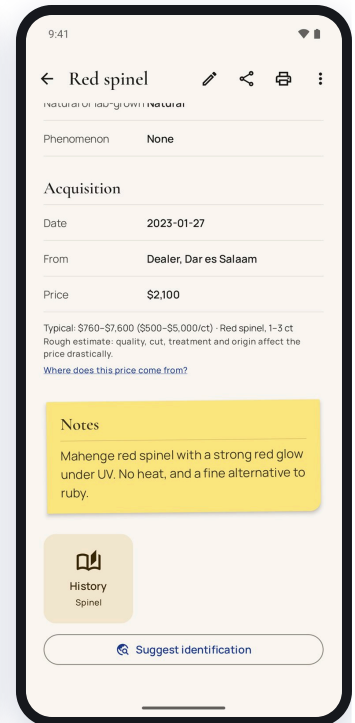
The top bar

Edit opens the form, **Share** sends the stone as a picture, a .gemcard, or its label, card or certificate (section 8), and **Print** prints this stone (section 7). The **:** menu has:

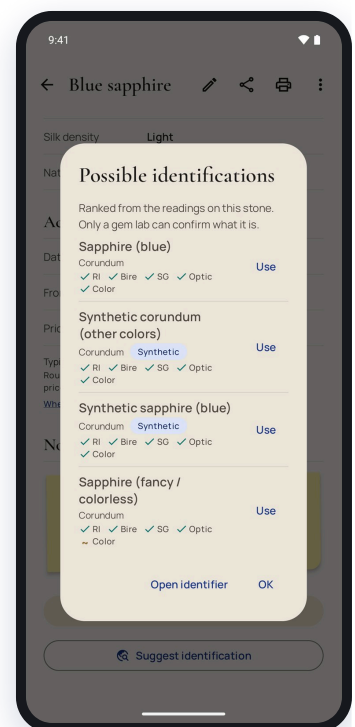
- **Identify this stone, Duplicate** (a copy to start a similar stone)
- **Send to collector** (section 8)
- **Check market prices**: opens eBay's sold listings for similar stones in your browser
- **Mark as sold**: records the date, price and buyer and moves the stone to Sold with a SOLD badge; **Undo sale** puts it back
- **Send feedback** and **Delete**



Stone page



Sticky note and buttons



Suggest identification

5 Identifying stones

Open **Identify a stone** from the main screen (or **Identify this stone** from a stone's : menu, which fills in its readings). Enter whatever readings you have and tap **Suggest**.

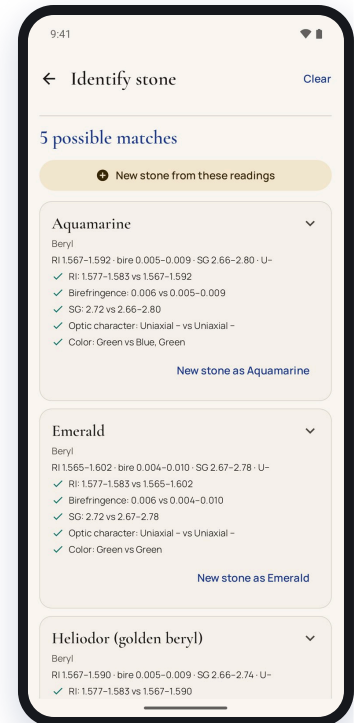
- **RI** from a refractometer: one reading or a range, and the birefringence.
- **SG**: type it, or use the **SG calculator** with the weight in air and in water.
- **Optic character** from a polariscope, pleochroism, fluorescence, color, transparency.

Stones are ranked by how well they fit, closest first; each shows which readings match and which don't. Stones that contradict a reading drop to the **ruled out** list. Tap **New stone as ...** on a result, or **New stone from these readings**, to start a stone with everything filled in.

Measure from a photo

Photograph the stone next to a ruler or on mm grid paper, set the scale by tapping two points a known distance apart, then tap the ends of the stone for length, width and (from a side view) depth. The app can then estimate the weight from the size, the cut and the SG.

The identifier narrows down the possibilities; it cannot tell a natural stone from a synthetic one or detect most treatments. Only a gem lab can confirm what a stone is.



Identifier results

6 Field guide, calculators and charts

Stone types

The **Field guide** (book icon) opens on **Stone types**: 79 stones, from Diamond and Corundum to Amber, Pearl and Moldavite. Each page gives names through history, discovery, varieties, where it is found, what to look for, treatments, imitations and sources. A stone's **History** button opens the same page. Missing a stone? Tell us in **Feedback?**.

Glossary and grading guides

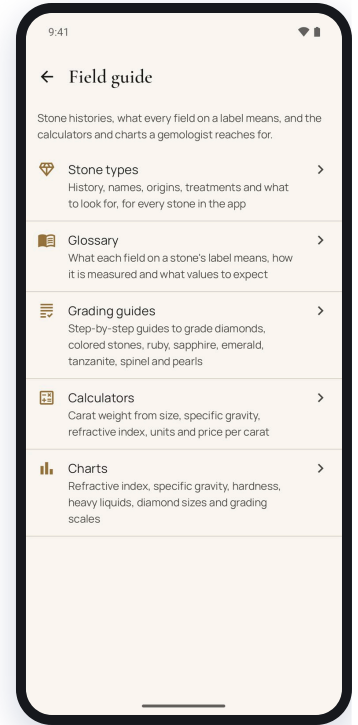
Every form field explained with diagrams. Grading guides, A to Z: amber, amethyst, any colored stone, diamond, emerald, jade, lapis lazuli, opal, pearl, ruby, sapphire, spinel, tanzanite and turquoise, each with how to spot treatments. Need more guides, calculators or charts? Leave a suggestion in **Feedback?**.

Calculators

A to Z: carat weight from size, diamond size (6.5 mm $\approx$ 1 ct), price per carat, refractive index (birefringence, critical angle), specific gravity and a unit converter, each with its formula.

Charts

RI, SG, birefringence and dispersion of every stone, Mohs scale with scratch tests, heavy liquids, diamond sizes at true size, **Birthstones** (by month, zodiac, Navaratna, weekdays, anniversaries) and **Durability** (hardness, toughness, cleavage and what to watch out for, sortable).



Field guide

7 Printing

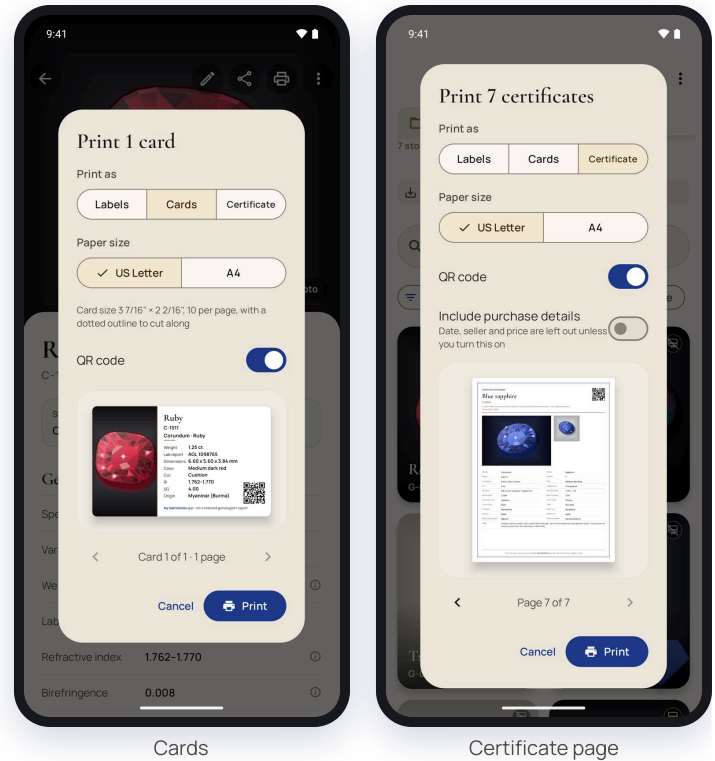
Print one stone, the selected stones, a folder or everything: from the : menu (**Print all stones** / **Print this folder**) or the print icon when stones are selected. Under **Print as** choose:

PRINT AS	WHAT YOU GET
Labels	2 14/16" × 1 15/16" labels with name, number, key data and a QR code, 10 per Letter or A4 sheet with dotted lines to cut along, or one label per page for label printers. They fit standard pill pouch baggies from any pharmacy. Start at label # skips labels already used on a sheet.
Cards	3 7/16" × 2 2/16"; 10 per page with dotted lines to cut along: main photo, name, number and the details (weight, lab report, dimensions, color, cut, RI, SG, origin, treatment).
Certificate	A full page per stone: a "Collection Certificate" with the photos, every detail and the lab report, ready for a binder or to go with a sale. Fields you haven't filled in print with a blank line to write on by hand.

Pick **Paper size** (US Letter or A4). All print text is near black and the stone's details are bold, so black-and-white printers print them clearly. Purchase details (date, seller, price) are left out unless you turn on **Include purchase details**. A live preview shows each page. **Save PDF** saves it straight to the phone's Download/My Gemstones folder, with an **Open** link. **Print** opens Android's print screen: choose a printer at the top and tap the round button.

Labels not lining up? Print the alignment test page on plain paper, hold it over a label sheet against the light, and adjust the x / y offset and scale in the **Alignment** section.

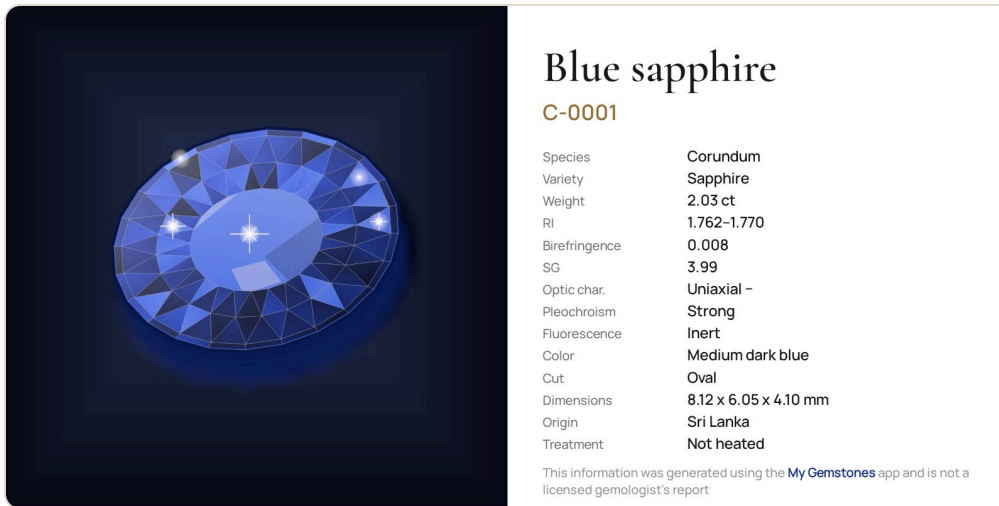
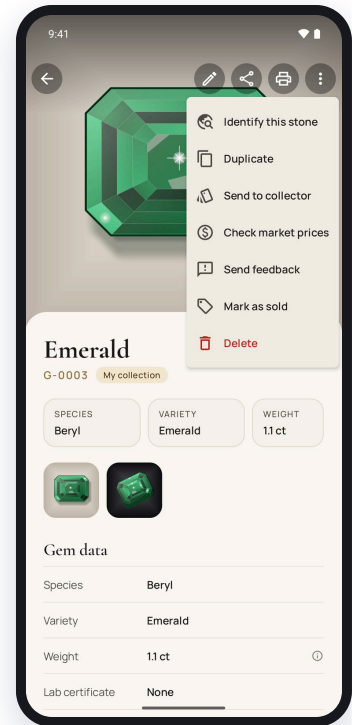
Scanning a label's QR code with the phone camera opens that stone in the app.



8 Sharing and trading cards

Share pictures

Share on a stone's page makes a picture with all its photos and details for messages and social media. From the main screen you can share selected stones, a folder or all stones as pictures, as a PDF, Excel file or backup. Under **Share as** you can also send the stone's **label**, **card** or **certificate** as a JPEG picture or a PDF.



The stone page : menu

Send to another collector

Send to collector (stone page : menu) sends:

- a **.gemcard** file with every detail and the original photos, for collectors who have My Gemstones: they open it, see a preview and tap **Add to my folder**;
- a picture of the stone with its photos and details, for people without the app.

Use any app: email, WhatsApp, Telegram, Messages, Bluetooth. If a card would be large, Settings can shrink its photos.

Receiving a card

Tap the **.gemcard** file in the chat, email or Files app, or use **Backup & export → Import a card....** A **.gembackup** file opens the same way. Pick the folder and tap **Add to my folder**.

Every shared picture, card and PDF carries a small line saying it was made with the My Gemstones app and is not a licensed gemologist's report.

9 Backup and export

Open **Backup & export** from the **:** menu. Your collection only exists on your phone, so keep a backup somewhere else: a computer, an SD card, a USB stick or your email.

Backup

Save backup... writes one **.gembackup** file with all folders, stones and full-size photos. **Share backup** sends it straight to another app. The main screen shows when you last backed up.

Automatic backup

Choose **Weekly** or **Monthly**, pick a folder on the phone or an SD card, and how many backups to keep. The app writes them on its own; **Back up now** makes one immediately.

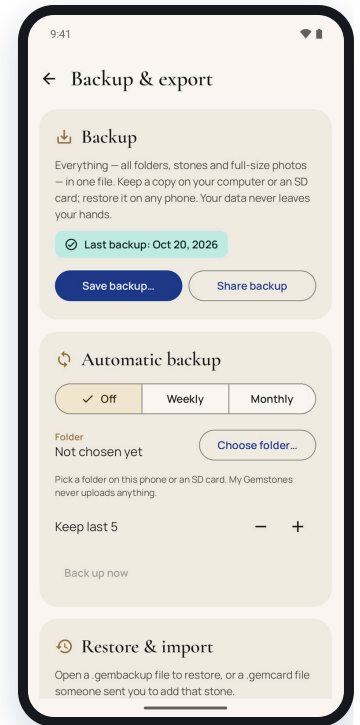
Restore

Restore from backup... opens a **.gembackup** file. **Add to my folder** keeps what you have and adds the backup's stones; **Replace everything** makes the app an exact copy of the backup. Stone numbers are kept, so printed labels and QR codes stay valid. To move to a new phone: back up on the old one, install the app on the new one, restore.

Export

For all stones, a folder or the selection:

- **PDF catalog**: a cover page, then two stone cards per page.
- **Excel (.xlsx)**: one row per stone, every field.
- **CSV**: a plain table for any spreadsheet.

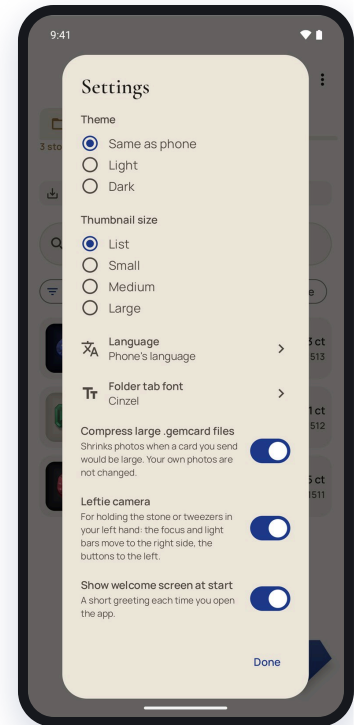


Backup & export

10 Settings

Open **Settings** from the **:** menu.

SETTING	WHAT IT DOES
Theme	Same as phone, Light or Dark.
Thumbnail size	List (the default), Small, Medium or Large.
Language	The phone's language, English or 14 others (made by AI; please report mistakes).
Folder tab font	The lettering of the folder name on the tab, Cinzel Decorative by default, with previews. The app's version is shown next to Done.
Compress .gemcard files	Shrinks photos in large cards you send; your own photos stay as they are.
Leftie camera	Focus and Light bars on the right, buttons on the left, for holding the stone in the left hand.
Welcome screen	The greeting when the app opens; turn it off here.
Password lock	An app password at start and after a minute away. Forgot it? Unlock with the phone's own screen lock, then Change app password .



Settings

11 Privacy, disclaimers and help

Your data

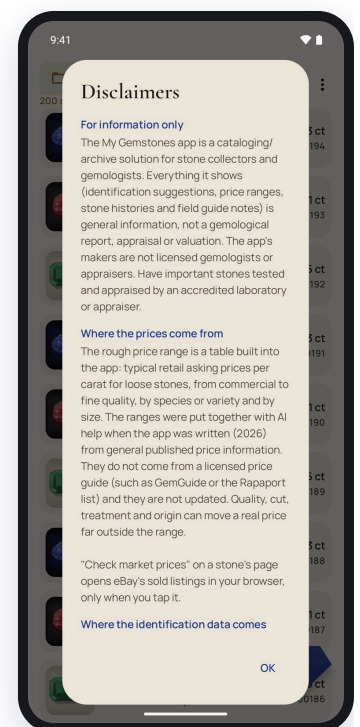
Everything stays on your phone. There is no account, no cloud and no tracking. My Gemstones has no ads and no internet permission; My Gemstones Free uses the internet only for its ad banner (Google AdMob). Nothing leaves the phone unless you share, export, back up or send it yourself. The only links that go online, like **Check market prices**, open your browser when you tap them.

Disclaimers

The disclaimers are in the Welcome section at the start of this manual, and in **Disclaimers** in the **:** menu. **About** in the same menu shows the version and credits: My Gemstones is made by East Data Systems LLC, concept and design by Roman Batyuschenko.

Feedback and help

Found a problem or have an idea? Take a normal phone screenshot of the screen and tap **Send** on the prompt, or use **Feedback?** in the **:** menu, also for suggestions and feature requests. It opens an email with the screenshot and the app version; you can read it before sending.



Disclaimers