There are two types of Opal—common opal and fire opal, both composed of Si02-nH2O. It has a white streak and a conchoidal or sometimes a splintery fracture, a Mohs hardness of 5.5-6.5 and a specific gravity of 1.9-2.3. It is brittle and transparent to translucent with a vitreous, waxy, greasy, or dull luster. Opal is best known for its variety of color which can flash red, yellow, orange, green, blue, black and brown. It is most often found in altering volcanic tuffs, basalt and deep water sediments formed at low temperature and pressure. The gem variety has considerable value as a semi-precious gem stone. There are several opal mines in northern Nevada, and opal has also been found in the Tonopah region.