

The mineral

# AZURITE

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Geology 10



# History

- First discovered by the Ancient Egyptians.
- The English name “azurite” is thought to be derived from the Arabic and Persian words for blue.
- Was used as a pigment,
- notably for the color azure,
- up until the late 17<sup>th</sup> century.
  - Produces light greens when mixed with oils.
  - Creates green-grays when mixed with egg yolk.



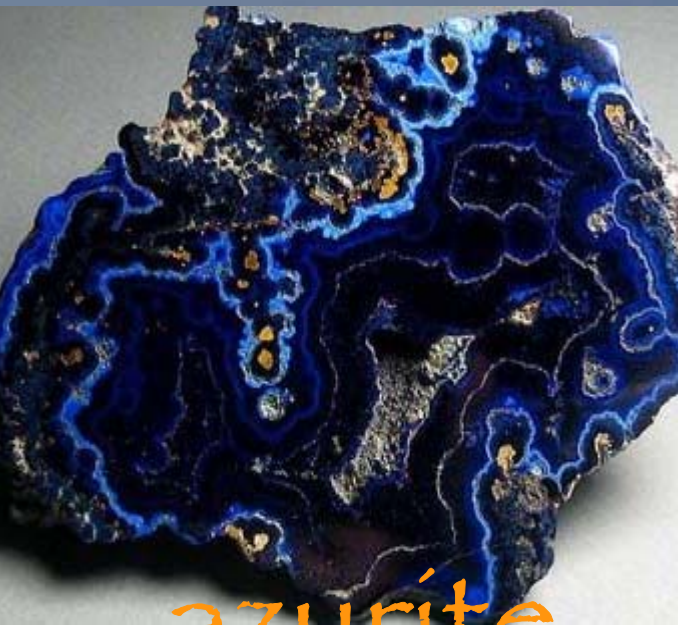
# Azurite

- Color: very dark to pale blue
- Mohs hardness rating: 3.5 – 4 (relatively soft)
- Streak: light blue
- Luster: glassy
- Monoclinic crystals

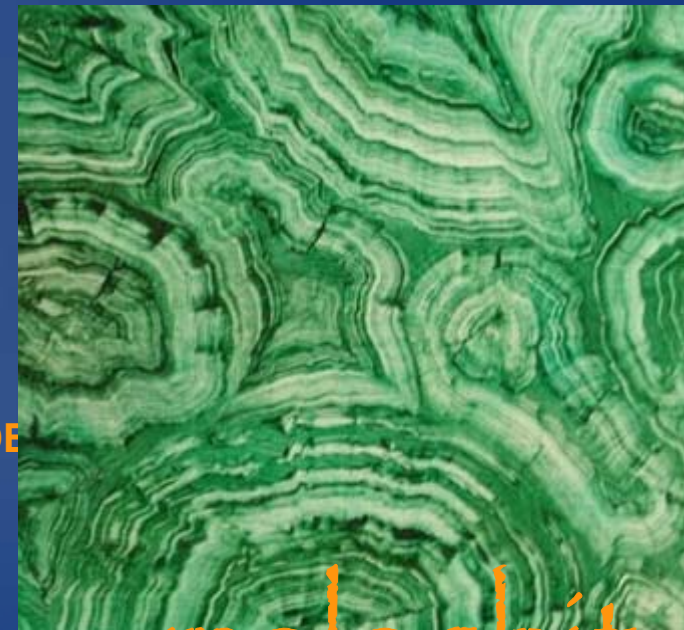
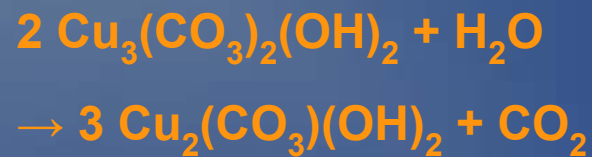


# Weathering

Azurite is extremely susceptible to decay and must be kept from light, open air and heat in order to preserve its deep blue hue.



azurite



malachite

turns from blue into green



# Madonna and Child Enthroned with Saints by Raphael



— *This once blue paint has turned green from weathering.*

# Azurite in Art





# Citations

- All images were borrowed from the following web sites:
  - <http://azuritte.com/>
  - <http://www.emporia.edu/earthsci/>
  - [http://z.about.com/d/arthistory/1/0/9/F/09\\_SumEx06\\_gallery.jpg](http://z.about.com/d/arthistory/1/0/9/F/09_SumEx06_gallery.jpg)
  - <http://stone-viewer.com/>
  - <http://www.exceptionalminerals.com/>
  - <http://www.twodogssouthwestgallery.com/>
  - <http://www.jegem.com/>