



GOLD

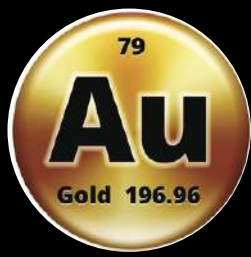


WHAT IS GOLD?

Gold is a chemical element with the symbol Au (from Latin: aurum) and atomic number 79. It is a dense, soft, malleable, and ductile metal and a good conductor of electricity. It is a precious metal and has been used as a form of currency and store of value for thousands of years. Gold is considered attractive due to its bright yellow color and luster and is neither oxidized nor eroded, which is why it is used for jewelry and other decorative items. .

WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF GOLD?

Gold has been known and used by humans for thousands of years dating back to ancient civilizations such as the Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans.. These ancient cultures used gold for jewelry, currency, and in religious ceremonies. Gold has also played a significant role in the economy and politics throughout history. The California Gold Rush of 1848-1855, for example, led to a significant increase in the U.S.'s gold supply and had a major impact on the American economy and population. Similarly, gold played a significant role in the colonial expansion of European powers, with the Spanish Empire in particular acquiring large amounts of gold through conquest and trade.



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In more recent history, gold has been used as a form of currency and store of value. The gold standard, was widely used in the 19th and early 20th centuries as a monetary system in which a country's currency is backed by gold,(abandoned during the 20th century).

Currently, gold is a popular investment and hedge against inflation and economic uncertainty. It is also used in the technology industry and in medicine.

WHY IS GOLD AN IMPORTANT COMMODITY?

Gold is considered an important commodity for several reasons:

- 1.Store of value: Gold has been used as a store of value for thousands of years, and its value has remained relatively stable over time. This makes it a popular investment option, especially in times of economic uncertainty.
- 2.Hedge against inflation: Gold is not affected by inflation like fiat currency is.
- 3.Jewelry: Gold is widely used in the jewelry industry and has a long history of cultural and religious significance.
- 4.Industrial applications: electronics, aerospace, medicine, and dentistry.
- 5.Limited supply: Gold is a finite resource, and there is a limited amount of it that can be mined. This scarcity makes it valuable and increases its price over time.
- 6.Liquidity: Gold is a highly liquid asset, which means that it can be easily bought and sold. This makes it a convenient option for investors looking to invest in a tangible asset.
- 7.Global demand: gold has a strong and steady global demand, not only for the reason above but also due to the fact that it is widely accepted as a form of payment and store of value in many countries.





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DID YOU KNOW?

In its pure form, gold is the only metal that is yellow or “golden.” Other metals may develop a yellowish color, but only after they have oxidized or reacted with other chemicals.

HOW IS GOLD MINED?

Gold can be mined using several different methods, but the most commonly used methods are:

1. **Open-pit mining:** This method involves removing the top layer of soil and rock, called the overburden, to reveal the gold-bearing ore. This method is used for low-grade ore deposits that are close to the surface.
2. **Underground mining:** This method involves digging tunnels or shafts into the earth to reach the gold-bearing ore. Underground mining is typically used for high-grade ore deposits that are deeper in the earth.
3. **Placer mining:** This method involves finding gold nuggets and flakes in stream beds, riverbanks, and beaches, called alluvial deposits

Once the gold-bearing ore is mined, it is then processed to separate the gold. The process of separating the gold can vary depending on the type of ore and the method used to mine it, but generally, it involves crushing the ore, and then using gravity, flotation, or cyanide leaching to separate the gold. Heap leaching involves stacking crushed ore on a lined pad and then applying a cyanide solution to the pile. The cyanide solution dissolves the gold, which is then collected and refined.



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DID YOU KNOW?

In its elemental form, gold is significantly rarer than diamonds. A one-troy-ounce Gold nugget, 31.1 grams, is rarer to find than a five-carat mined diamond. After all, carbon is one of the most abundant elements on Earth—contrary to what you might have been told—and a diamond is composed almost entirely of carbon. The average concentration of gold in Earth's crust is 'very, very low,' at 4 parts per billion.

WHAT EVERYDAY PRODUCTS CONTAIN GOLD?

Gold is used in a variety of everyday products and industries, some examples include:

1. **Jewelry:** Gold is a popular choice for making jewelry due to its attractive color and durability.
2. **Electronics:** Gold is used in a variety of electronic devices, such as smartphones, laptops, and televisions, due to its excellent electrical conductivity.
3. **Medicine:** Gold is used in medicine for its anti-inflammatory properties and is used in the treatment of conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis.
4. **Dentistry:** Gold is used in dental fillings, crowns, and bridges due to its durability and biocompatibility.
5. **Glass manufacturing:** Gold is used to make colored glass and specialty glass for use in mirrors, telescopes, and other applications.
6. **Aerospace industry:** Gold is used in the aerospace industry as a reflective coating for satellites and spacecraft because of its ability to reflect infrared radiation.
7. **Coins:** Gold is used to make coins and medals.
8. **Decorative arts:** Gold is used to make decorative items such as picture frames, vases, and statues.

