

# Cougar News Vol. 1 - December 2018 What is it with crystals??

We see crystals in jewelry. We see crystals in stores, in museums on

display, and in other places. They are used to be looked at, worn, and maybe even for a proposal. Crystals are valuable to society and can be worth up to \$71 million dollars to certain individuals! Others consider crystals to be uninspiring, unimportant and just plain insignificant. So in order to change their



minds, we did some research for what other purposes crystals may be used.

### **Cutting Utensils**

Believe it or not, crystals are not just a sight for sore eyes, but they have industrial purposes too! For example, **diamonds** are used in saws or ropes in order to cut stone. Jewelers use these not only to sell as jewelry, but to cut other gems, such as jade or sapphire.



#### <u>Watches</u>

**Quartz**, **ruby**, and **sapphire** crystals are used for watches and other devices. The glass used for Rolex watches are made from a colorless, synthetic sapphire. A ruby can be

used for the hard bearings in watches and other mechanical objects.

Quartz crystals can control time within a silicon chip and quartz sand is also used to make other microelectronics.

#### **Ruby Lasers**

Rubies are used for a variety of purposes. For example, ruby lasers are found in items such as CD players and long distance telephones. They are also used by teachers in their presentations and lessons for their class in the form of a laser pointer. High-energy ruby lasers can cut through steel plates and make holes in diamonds.

As you can see, crystals are used for very important things. Without some of these crystals, we wouldn't have some of the various technologies that are fundamental to this modern society.

## Credits:

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