

CLEARING YOUR CRYSTALS & STONES

You are so excited, you just got this nifty new stone to bring home and use, be it for ritual work, healing work, or just because it's that cool and you "had" to have it. However, an important consideration to take into account is the care of your new friend and more importantly cleaning it properly. As a layperson you may not be familiar with a stone's properties or care and may have just gone with your "gut instinct" when buying it. While following one's intuition when choosing a stone is great, protecting it based on its physical expression is equally important. The long and short of it - certain stones need to be cleansed in certain ways, while others cannot under any circumstances be cleansed in some ways. To best preserve the life and energy of your crystals and stones, as well as respect them remember these guidelines when deciding how to cleanse your stones:

- **Friable (jointed) stones cannot be cleaned in water or salt water**, if you assure that you get all of the salt out of the cracks/facets/joints in the stone you may use dry sea or rock salt (however, better safe than sorry!)
- The following stones **should not be cleared with sunlight as it will cause them to fade or be adversely affected**: opal, rose quartz, tourmaline, turquoise, heat-treated citrine, amethyst, aquamarine, aventurine, celestite, fluorite, kunzite, lapis lazuli, malachite, any stone with a jointed edge/crystal shape (they can magnify the sun's rays and could start a fire!!!)
- The following stones **should not be cleared with water/salt water**: selenite, lapis lazuli, malachite, turquoise/calcite, carnelian, labradorite, opal.
- **Stones with terminated ends should not be cleared in a singing bowl** (the vibrations can cause them to chip).
- Malachite, sulphur, galena, vanadinite **leach toxins and should not be put in water or salt water!**

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