

# gilson created turquoises

The oldest known jewelry consists of a set of four gold and turquoise bracelets which belonged to Queen Zer, the wife of Pharaoh Athotis of the first dynasty (3400 - 3200 B.C.). In Tibet, turquoise was used as an ornament in religious ceremonies and even today, it is the favourite stone of the inhabitants of the



region who believe that it brings good luck and protection. An inscription to the Goddess Hator... goddess of heaven and earth... also consecrates her Goddess of turquoise. Through the ages turquoise has lost none of its attraction. Yet few have been able to enjoy the rare, unclouded beauty of the highest quality turquoise... until now. While only one-fifth the price of highest quality natural turquoise, Gilson Created Turquoise rivals nature's finest specimens because they are similar in their chemical, physical and optical properties.

## PHYSICAL AND OPTICAL CHARACTERISTICS

	Gilson-Created Turquoise	Natural Turquoise
Chemical composition	H <sub>5</sub> [Al(OH) <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>6</sub> Cu OH(PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> A complex hydrous copper-aluminium phosphate. Absolutely free of iron.	H <sub>5</sub> [Al(OH) <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>6</sub> Cu OH(PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> A complex hydrous copper aluminium phosphate. Copper causes the blue color, iron may replace some aluminium and cause the green color.
Foreign bodies	None	Frequent.
Shape	Triclinic system cryptocrystalline.	Triclinic system cryptocrystalline.
Hardness	6	5 to 6
Toughness	Good.	Fine quality is fair to good, chalky material is poor and easily fractured.
Cleavage	None.	None.
Fracture	Conchoidal.	Conchoidal.
Density	2.68 to 2.75.	2.61 to 2.84.
Acid resistance	Dissolves in hydrochloric acid	Dissolves in hydrochloric acid
Degree of transparency	Opaque; thin sections are translucent.	Opaque; thin sections are translucent.
Refractive index	1.59 to 1.60.	1.60
Pleochroism	None.	None.
Dispersion	None.	None.
Reaction to Chelsea color filter	None.	None.
COLOR	Intense medium blue.	Persian turquoises of top quality are intense medium blue.