

Apache tears

Apache tears are rounded pebbles of obsidian or "obsidianites" composed of black or dark-colored natural volcanic glass, usually of rhyolite composition and bearing conchoidal fracture. Also known by the lithologic term "marekanite", this variety of obsidian occurs as subrounded to subangular bodies up to about 2 inches in diameter, often bearing indented surfaces. Internally the pebbles sometimes contain fine bands or microlites and though in reflected light they appear black and opaque, they may be translucent in transmitted light. Apache tears fall between 5 and 5.5 in hardness on the Mohs scale.

Geology

Apache tears originate from siliceous lava flows, lava domes or ash-flow [tuffs](#), often in close association with or embedded in, gray perlite. The spherules occur as cores within perlite masses that typically exhibit texture of concentrically curved, onion-skin fractures. Formation is apparently related to differential cooling and various alkali and water contents. Excessive water present during cooling and quenching of rhyolitic lava causes obsidian to hydrate (i.e., water entering the obsidian glass converts it to perlite). Where perlite is incompletely hydrated, fresh obsidian cores remain as pebbles of marekanite, or Apache tears; this origin has been occasionally described in the geologic literature.

Apache tears are well known from tertiary volcanic terrain in numerous localities throughout the western United States, particularly Arizona, from where specimens were widely collected and sold in the lapidary and specimen trade. Several districts in western Nevada also have yielded abundant Apache tears eroding from tuff beds; such areas have been popularized in the lapidary trade through guides for rockhounds. Specimens from many of these sites have been avidly collected by rockhounds and lapidary enthusiasts, are often tumbled and may be considered semi-precious gemstones; locations are noted in the section "Gemstones of Nevada" by Rose and Ferdock.

Apache Tears have a strong action to aid emotional healing.

These natural crystals bring you comfort and help to heal grief.

Yet they have a more friendly vibration than some of the other types of Obsidian, which makes you feel comfortable with them.

They are a natural type of Black Obsidian that has not been altered.

Maybe it is their strange out-of-shape appearance that brings solace when you are grieving.

They are strong stones for grounding and protection, and to aid you to clear negative emotions that may be holding you back.

They are volcanic stones that may be partly transparent. Their color is very dark brown to black in color.

These dark strange looking stones occur naturally in these odd shapes.

Where Are They From?

They are a type of Black Obsidian Stone found in the south-western USA and Mexico.

The meaning of their name comes from an American Indian legend. It was said that certain members of this tribe were pursued by the Cavalry, and although they fought bravely they were outnumbered. Rather than be captured they jumped off the cliff to their deaths.

The distraught women of the tribe cried dark tears of grief, which fell to the earth, and formed into these dark strangely shaped stones. It is believed that their tears formed into reality as these unusual stones, so people will always remember what happened.

Why Would You Use Them?

Give Protection & Grounding

Apache Tears are powerful stones to use for psychic protection.

They will raise your ability to recognize the approach of menacing situations, where you may be at risk.

This is extremely useful if you are a healer, as they will aid your work by ensuring you are kept safe.

Like other types of Black Obsidian, they will absorb negative energy. This makes Apache Tears powerful tools to cleanse your auric field of negativity.

Their historical meaning is interesting, as these stones are powerful to heal you, if you are feeling grief and emotional distress.

They are also strong stones for spiritual grounding, so use them after you have been working with high vibration crystals.

Apache tears have a number of excellent healing properties including:

Their strong energy works within the base or root chakra, where it will move excess energy down into the earth chakra for grounding with Mother Gaia.

The energy of these stones will strengthen the blood and the immune system.

They will help the body to assimilate Vitamin C and D.

They have beneficial healing properties that assist with the reduction of toxins in the body by aiding their removal.

They are beneficial healing crystals for you to utilize to calm muscle spasms.

They may also enhance vitality and strength within the body.

Within the heart chakra their energy will assist the emotional body to heal, from old issues of an emotional nature.

Their energy within the sacral or navel chakra helps to aid the removal of disharmonious energies in relationships.

They may bring through joy as they encourage you to feel more positive about life.

Apache Tears are easy to buy, and they are friendly stones that may be used to ground your energy and protect you from negativity.

Although many people are drawn to the more spiritual stones, that work within the higher chakras, these are very useful to add to your collection.

These are very useful stones for anyone to use, but especially if you are a healer. If you are doing any spiritual development work, there are strong advantages to using these stones. Their strong energy works within the base or root chakra, where it will move excess energy down into the earth chakra to help grounding to Mother Gaia.

Because they do absorb so much negativity, they will need to be regularly cleansed using one of the methods to cleanse your crystals.

It is important to ensure that the physical body is kept healthy and that you remain grounded to avoid health problems.

You will need to cleanse them fairly often, but there are lots of advantages to having a piece of stone that is both a spiritual grounding and psychic protection stone.

These unusual stones are on the birthstone list by month as they are a November birthstone. Having jewelry made from these stones is an excellent idea, as you can easily wear them and keep this excellent energy within your aura.

Apache Tears do make lovely rings and pendants, because of their unusual shape which makes them a striking and unique piece of birthstone jewelry.

But if you can't get jewelry made from this stone, use a piece of stone instead.

I have some macrame stone holders, they have a slip knot so you can change the stones.

Works well to put stones in to wear, when I can't get jewelry.

These unusual shaped stones are fairly easy to buy, so this is an alternative to jewelry. Keep one in your pocket each day, so that the energy remains within your auric field.

Scorpio Birthstones

Sun/Star Signs, Talismanic and Planetary Stones

(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

The Zodiac sign of Scorpio includes six stones: beryl, **apache tear**, aquamarine, coral, obsidian, topaz. In addition to the Zodiac stones, garnet and ruby are listed as the Planetary stones for Scorpio and amethyst as the Talismanic Stone.