

AN HISTORICAL DOCUMENT

EXTRACT FROM

The South Australian Government

Trade standards Act 1979

As detailed in the regulations from

1985

OPAL

**EXTRACTED FROM
TRADE STANDARDS REGULATIONS 1985
SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

3.8 Opals

3.8.1 For the purposes of regulation 3.8:

"dealer" means a person who carries on the trade or business of supplying opals or items containing opals;

"imitation opal" means artificial material that is supplied or described as opal or a product of opal, but does not include synthetic opal;

"matrix opal" means host rock which is impregnated with naturally occurring opal which cannot be readily separated from that host rock;

"solid opal" means naturally occurring opal that has no other material artificially fixed to it, and includes boulder opal and painted lady opal, but does not include matrix opal or treated opal;

"synthetic opal" means manufactured material that has the same or similar physical and chemical structure as naturally occurring opal;

"treated opal" means naturally occurring opal that has been treated chemically or by other means in order to enhance its opalescence.

3.8.2 A dealer who supplies opal to any person shall provide that person with a receipt in writing that is clear and legible and specifies the business name and address of the dealer, the date of supply, the price paid for the opal by the person to whom it is supplied, and the classification of the opal in accordance with the First Schedule hereto.

3.8.3 A dealer who offers, exposes or displays opal for supply to persons who are not dealers shall conspicuously display adjacent to that opal a notice on white paper of size 210 mm wide and 297 mm deep in the form of the Second Schedule hereto, and printed in letters which are not less than 5 mm in height.

3.8.4 A dealer shall not supply any item of or containing synthetic opal to any person unless there is attached to that item a sign, card, tag or other such label that has the words "synthetic opal" printed conspicuously on it in letters not less than 2.5 mm in height.

3.8.5 A dealer shall not supply any item of or containing imitation opal to any person unless there is attached to that item a sign, card, tag or other such label that has the words "imitation opal" printed conspicuously on it in letters not less than 2.5 mm in height.

3.8.6 A dealer shall not supply any item of or containing treated opal to any person unless there is attached to that item a sign, card, tag or other such label that has the words "treated opal" printed conspicuously on it in letters not less than 2.5 mm in height.

3.8.7 Any opal or any item containing any opal having a retail price of fifteen dollars or less, shall be excluded from the requirements of these regulations.

SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE
TRADE STANDARDS ACT, 1979
(Regulation 3.8.2)*Classification of Opals*

Classification	Description
Solid Opal (Class A)	all items of or containing natural opal, excluding those in doublet or triplet form, and excluding matrix opal.
Laminated Opal (Class B)	doublets and triplets where the layer of opal is solid natural opal.
Matrix Opal (Class C1)	all items of or containing matrix opal, including doublets and triplets but excluding items of or containing treated opal.
Treated Opal (Class C2)	all items of or containing treated opal, including doublets or triplets.
Synthetic Opal	all items of or containing synthetic opal, including doublets and triplets.
Imitation Opal	all items of or containing imitation opal, including doublets and triplets.

SECOND SCHEDULE
TRADE STANDARDS ACT, 1979
(Regulation 3.8.3)

Notice to Opal Purchasers

If you purchase an opal product the opal dealer must give you a written receipt describing the product as belonging to one of the following classes:

Class	Description
Solid Opal (Class A)	Opal that has been mined and is presented in one piece either in its naturally occurring state or after being cut and polished. It has not been chemically treated and has no other materials cemented to it other than by nature.
Laminated Opal (Class B)	A thin layer of solid opal that is fixed to a base of opaque material (a doublet), or a doublet with a fixed clear top (a triplet).
Matrix Opal (Class C1)	Host rock which is impregnated with natural opal which cannot be readily separated from that host rock.
Treated Opal (Class C2)	Solid opal or matrix opal that has been treated chemically or by other means to enhance its appearance.
Synthetic Opal	Material that has the same chemical and physical structure and the same appearance as naturally occurring opal, but which has been manufactured.
Imitation Opal	Artificial material resembling naturally occurring opal but which does not have its physical and chemical structure.

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