

VINTAGE SWAROVSKI PAPERWEIGHTS

“VINTAGE” COLOUR SWAROVSKI PAPERWEIGHTS

In the early days of the Swarovski crystal paperweights, several of the designs came in a range of 10 different colours, occasionally also in clear crystal. The colour paperweights in those days were made from clear crystal, but they had a special coating applied to the base of the piece, which was covered with felt to protect it and this coating is what provided the different colours. Technology in those days was very different! These are the shapes of paperweight which are believed to have been made in all 10 colours – not all were available globally, some are easy to find, some are virtually impossible!

Paperweight shapes (which can be found in the 10 original Swarovski colours)

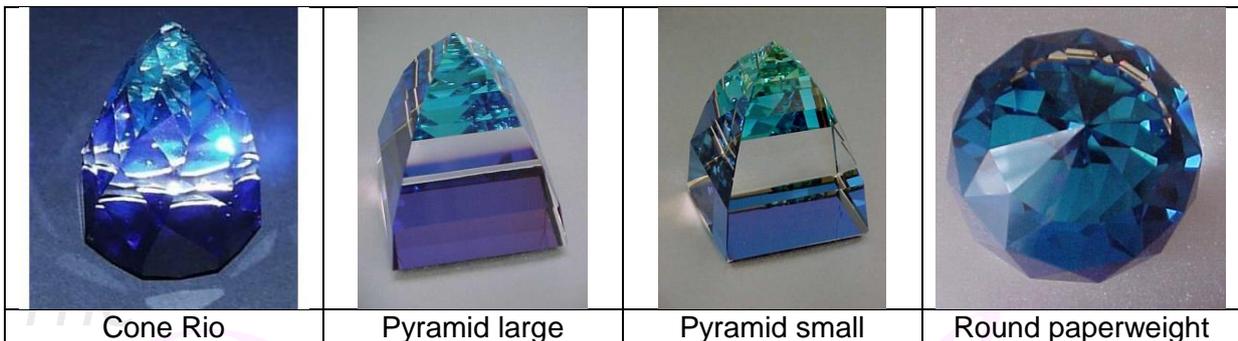
				
Round paperweights 4 sizes in total: 30mm, 40mm, 50mm, 60mm		Atomic		
				
Barrel (Revolution / Granate)	Carousel	Cone Rio		
				
Octron (can also be found in clear with no flocked base)	Pyramid large	Pyramid small		

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The paperweight colours

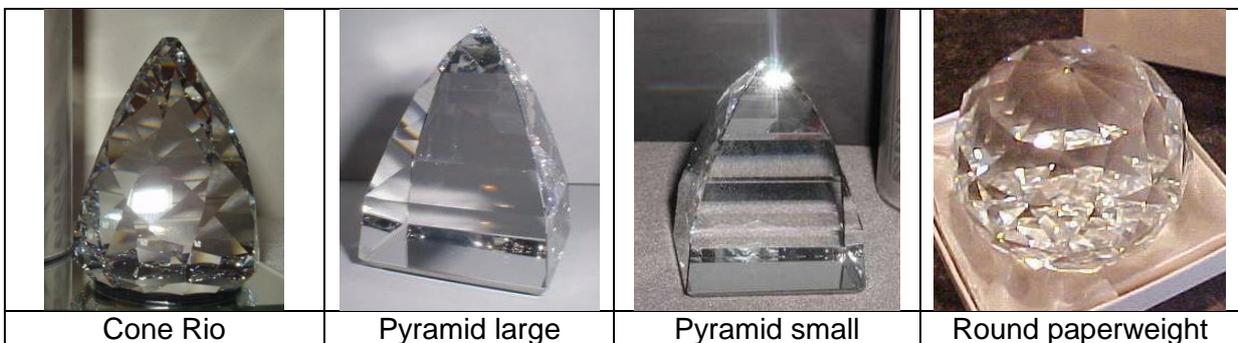
BERMUDA BLUE (BB)

This stays in true colour and is medium to dark blue. It was originally referred to as “Lapis”, a name given to a semi-precious stone in Ancient Egypt.



CRYSTAL CAL (CAL)

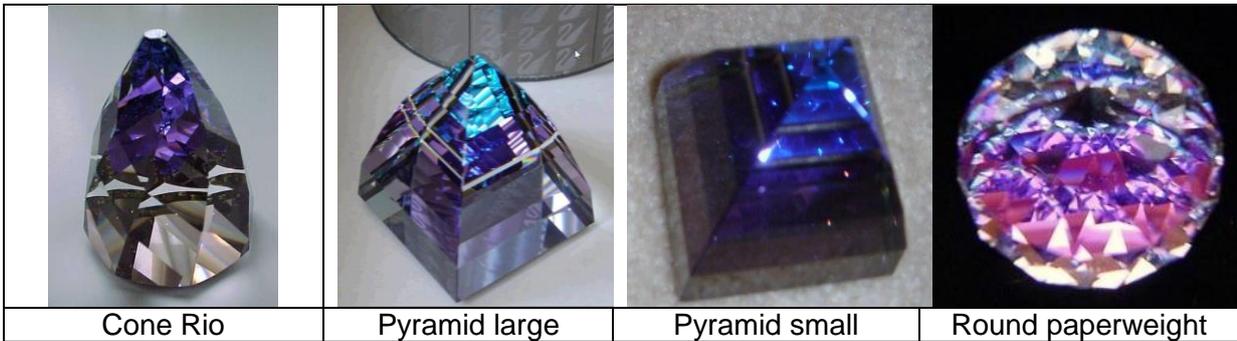
Cal stands for Comet Argent Light. “Argent” is an old name for silver, and is very appropriate to the silver mirror coating found on this paperweight. You can still find this Cal coating on some of the newer crystal pieces, although you have to look for it as these days it has a totally new purpose. For example, when clear crystal is mixed with colour, black or frosted crystal, the designers put a Cal coating on the piece so that the reflection of the clear crystal shows through and blocks out the colour crystal behind it so it doesn’t interfere with the overall look of the piece. For examples, see annual edition pandas, the top of annual edition Antonio’s hat, the underside of Red Riding Hood’s skirt, the Puffins and loads, loads more! Its great fun looking for this effect, so we won’t tell you about any more that we’ve found so you can enjoy searching!



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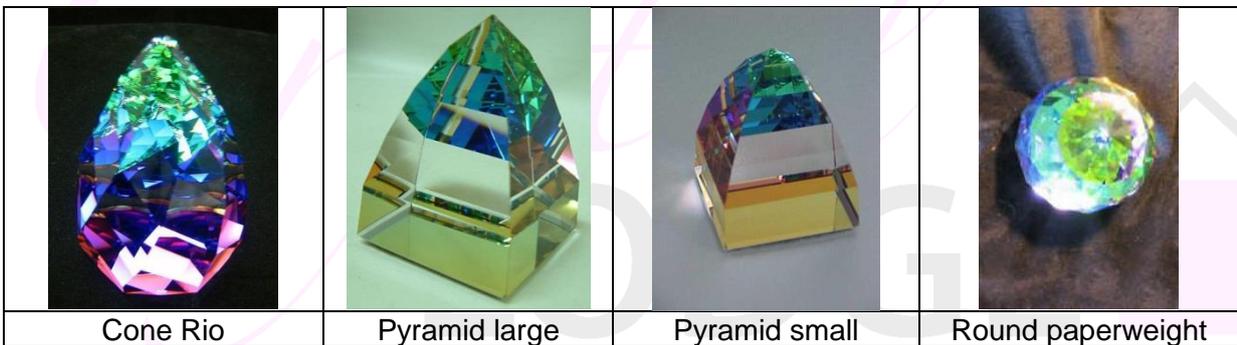
HELIO

Originally called “Heliotrope” this is Purple in colour. Sometimes confused with Bermuda Blue.



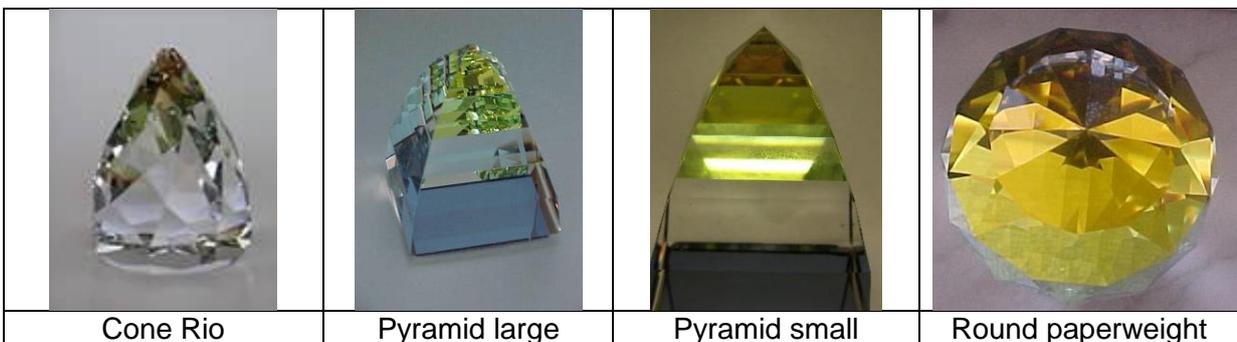
INN GREEN (IG)

This is predominantly green, but also has a hint of amber. Named after Inn Valley in Austria, which is of course, the home of Swarovski.



SAHARA

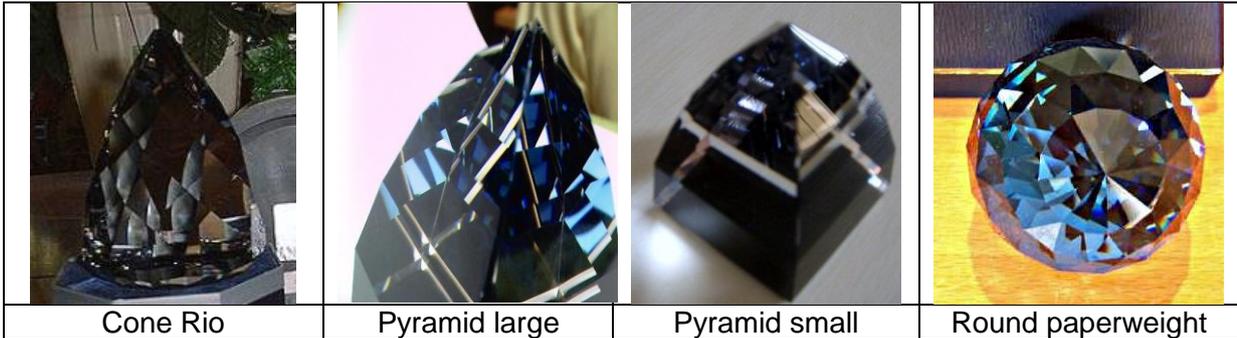
A sand-like yellow in colour – with no explanation needed for the origin of the name!



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SEAL

Dark grey in colour, and stays that way. While most of the paperweight colours have a rainbow effect in their reflection of the light, this one stays pure.



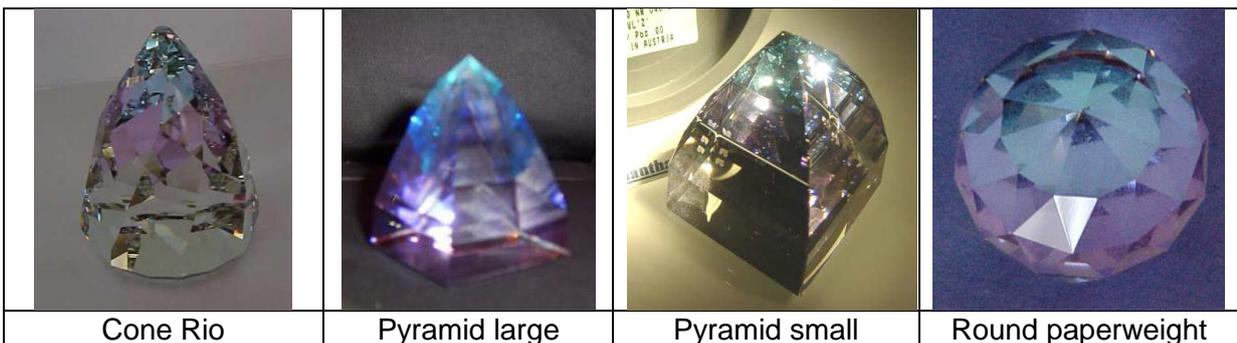
The TABAC

Tabac is the German word for tobacco. This is yellow-brown in colour and is similar to cured tobacco in colour.



VITRIL LIGHT (VL)

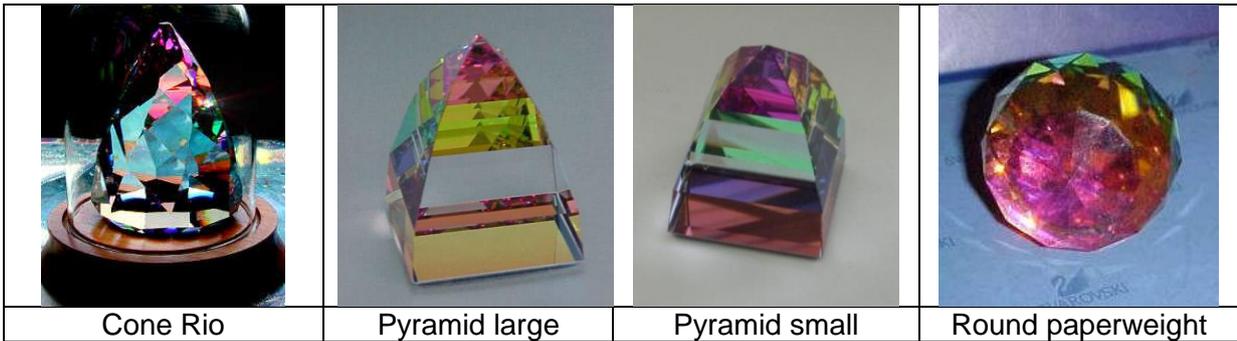
Very delicate baby pink and baby blue in colour.



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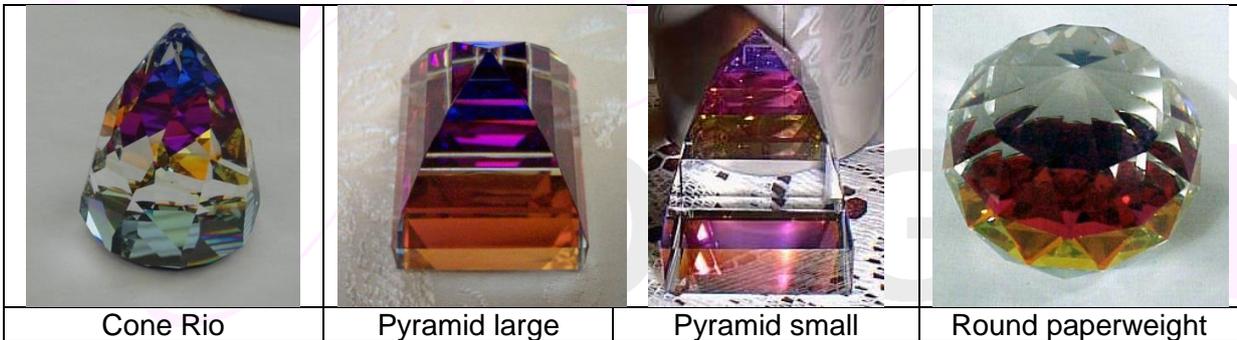
VITRAIL MEDIUM (VM)

Vibrant pink and blue.



VOLCANO

Reminiscent of lava flow (hence the name!) with brilliant blue and red hues.



OTHER INFORMATION

It is believed that only the Comet Argent Light (Cal), Bermuda Blue (BB) and Vitrail Medium (VM) colourways were available globally. The other colours were only available within the European marketplace.

The Octron (in clear crystal) was also made in giant size.

Later paperweights such as the chatons, which have come in various shapes and sizes have, to date, only been produced in clear crystal. That is, until the introduction of the “Currents” series of paperweights, introduced in 2018.