Fortification Agates

Fortification agate is the most common and recognizable type of agate. Bands of color form concentrically surrounding a hollow cavity (sometimes there is a minimal cavity or no cavity). The name is derived from the appearance of the bands. If you cut one of these agates in half and look down on the bands, they will appear like a fortification structure around the cavity in the center.

Water Line Agates

This type of agate is also known as “Water Level” agate. This type of agate forms in such a way that gravity permits the bands to form in a straight parallel formation in one direction.
The best shadow agates in the world come from Lake Superior; Botswana, Africa; and Queensland, Australia. Shadow agates exhibit an optical effect of movement across the bands. Depth is perceived from light penetrating and bouncing between alternating clear and opaque layers. When you move these agates back and forth, shadows can be seen racing across the surface. Many factors contribute to the shadow phenomenon including the regularity, contrast, distance, and depth of the bands.

www.agatelady.com

With Tube Agate formation, extremely thin mineral rods grow inside the silica gel before the gel solidifies and the chalcedony forms. Sometimes these rods remain as inclusions, while other times they hollow out and fill with silica. They are visible as tube-like formations inside the resulting agate.

www.gemstonesadvisor.com/types-agate/
Eye Agates

Eye agates have a distinctive spotted appearance. The spots themselves may contain concentric bands of color, or they might be one solid color. Cavities in the stone drain of silica gel, and eventually fill with chalcedony micro-crystals, resulting in the ‘eyes.’

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Plume Agates

Plume agates have intriguing patterns that may look a bit like ferns. They are the result of formations existing on the outside of the stone before the chalcedony deposits grew. Later, the formations fell away, but the inclusions from them remain to mark their past presence.

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Moss AGATES

Similar to the plume agate, moss agate may have formations of inclusions which resemble ferns, trees, moss or landscapes. The inclusions are usually formed out of iron or manganese oxide. These types of agates may not have any chalcedony bands because the elements involved in the inclusion formations may inhibit their growth.

Geode AGATES

These are related to fortification geodes. They have hollow centers, owing to the silica-water gel mixture running out before the entire stone was able to fill in. Many have agate banding around the hollow interior, like the fortification agates. Not all do, though. There may or may not be a wall of crystals inside surrounding the hollow space.
Seam agates do not form in round pockets, but rather in narrower gaps within a rock (thus their name). They typically have rows of chalcedony bands, but are unlikely to form those bands in a circular fashion or have any special interior. www.gemstonesadvisor.com/types-agate/

Polyhedral agate is agate which has grown in a flat-sided shape similar to a polyhedron. When sliced, it often shows a characteristic layering of concentric polygons. Polyhedral agate is thought to be found only in Paraíba State, Brazil. It has been suggested that growth is not crystallographically controlled but is due to the filling-in of spaces between pre-existing crystals which have since dissolved. www.wikipedia.com