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A technique for mounting and polishing melt inclusions in small (<1 mm) crystals

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ABSTRACT

We have developed a method for mounting and polishing small crystals (<1 mm) to expose melt inclusions for analysis. Individual crystals are mounted in epoxy on one end of a 3.2 mm × 1.3 cm polycarbonate rod. The rod is inserted into a two-piece polishing tool with an adjusting screw to control the amount of sample exposed for grinding and polishing. Thus, individual crystals can be ground and polished so that features of interest (e.g., melt inclusions) are exposed on the polished surface.