

Different minerals in the chambers of a phragmocone



1-Inside colorfull



2-Outside

Colorfull chamber fillings like the above shown example are at least rare at the Toarcian of Truc de Balduc/F. Without an analysis one only can estimate what the minerals are: Brown/white = CaCO_3 or Calcit. blue-grey= SrCO_3 or Coelestine , orange= unknown to me.



Nearly ideal median cut through a pyritised Ammonite shell.

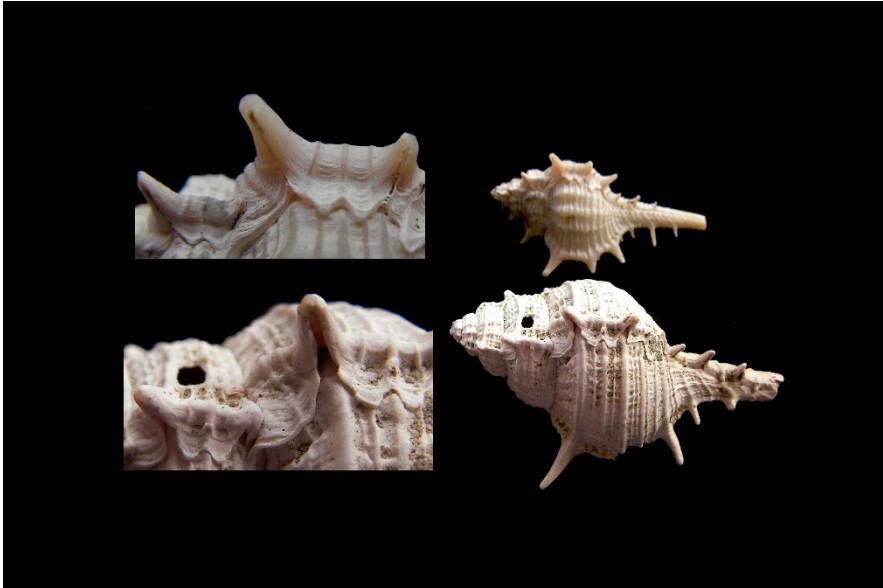
Problem to get such a median cut:
The protoconch /eggcell / centre of the ammonite shell is less than 1 mm in diameter, that means less than the thickness of the cutting disk.
So if you are hitting exactly the centre, it will be lost because of the thickness of the cutting disk.

Other Informations – Do spines help to defend ?



1Bought09a 005z

This Latiaxis sp. was attacked by a Murex or Natica sp. The first attack (hole no.2) was too close to the aperture, so the Latiaxis could retract into the shell and thus survived. The second attack (hole no.1) (possibly from another species) was again below reach of the spines of the Latiaxis sp., but this time the Latiaxis could not retract far enough (own interpretation). Obvious: First impression: the spines are to defend against a predator. But in this specific case, the spines did not help at all to defend the snail.



Empty spines size: 62 / 39mm

Small and bigger Murex trapa. As it looks like, after a row with "spine folds" a new layer is shifted from below further till building the next row of spines. Question: What happens to the row of spines when the next layer is coming? Overgrowing ? No. ? Adult stage ??

At least these examples show that spines in general are not helpful when attacked by specific predators.