

Mineral Properties Worksheet

If any of the following statements is a characteristic of a mineral, place a check mark beside it. If it is not, leave it blank.

- 1 _____ Made of one or more elements on the periodic table
- 2 _____ Is formed by years of compression under the earth's crust
- 3 _____ Is formed by cooling after a volcanic eruption
- 4 _____ Is a solid
- 5 _____ Has a unique crystalline shape
- 6 _____ Can be melted easily with a simple campfire
- 7 _____ Has luster, a hardness number and specific density
- 8 _____ Is usually found on the coastal areas of the United States

We use different tests to identify a mineral. Match each test with its name.

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|--------------------------------|--|
| 9 _____ Moh's Scale | A. Relative heaviness of a mineral |
| 10 _____ Crystalline Structure | B. Color it leaves when scratched on porcelain |
| 11 _____ Specific Gravity | C. How easily it scratches other materials or its hardness |
| 12 _____ Streak | D. Shape as it grows |
| 13 _____ Luster | E. Breaks along a plane/line |
| 14. _____ Fracture | F. Appearance |
| 15. _____ Cleavage | G. Breaks unevenly or shatters |

Take the following list of items and give their hardness on the Moh's scale. You may have to use a text book or the internet to find your answers.

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|---------|--------|----------|-------|
| Diamond | A nail | A penny | Talc |
| Glass | Steel | Amethyst | Topaz |