

Mineral Identification Chart

Mineral	Possible Colors	Luster	Crystal Shape	Mohs Hardness Scale	Streak	Special Properties
Albite/Pyroxene	White, grey, yellow	Pearly to earthy	Monoclinic	2	White	Can be scratched easily with fingernail
Calcite/Pyroxene	Colorless	Vitreous	Monoclinic	2	White	Transparent
Orthopyroxene	White, red, green	Vitreous	Triclinic	6	White	Cleavage - Good in 2 directions
Quartz	Varies from white to black	Vitreous	Hexagonal	7	None	Very common mineral
Magnetite	Brown-black	Metallic	Cubic (Cubic-like)	6	Black	Magnetic
Hematite	Red, brown, black	Metallic	Hexagonal	5.5 - 6.5	Dark Red	Becomes magnetic upon heating
Biotite/Albite	Green, brown, black	Vitreous	Monoclinic	2.5 - 3	None	Thin sheets; Flies peel off easily; Cleavage - Excellent in 1 direction
Talc	White, green, grey	Pearly to Greasy	Monoclinic	1	White	Greasy feel, soft
Fluorite	Green, yellow, purple	Vitreous	Cubic	4	White	Glow under ultraviolet light; Fluorescent; "The most colorful mineral in earth"
Graphite	Black	Metallic	Hexagonal	1 - 2	Black	This is the "lead" in pencils
Calcite	White, yellow, brown, blue	Vitreous to Earthy	Hexagonal	3	White	Fizzes in dilute hydrochloric acid
Orthopyroxene	White, grey, pink	Silky	Monoclinic	3	White	Can be scratched easily by fingernail
Muscovite/Albite	Colorless, yellow, brown	Vitreous	Monoclinic	2 - 2.5	None	Thin, elastic; Flies peel off easily; Cleavage - Excellent in 1 direction
Halite	Colorless, white, pink	Vitreous	Cubic	2.5	White	Salty taste; Transparent
Pyrite	Pale brass yellow	Metallic	Cubic	6 - 6.5	Brown	Known as "Fool's Gold"