

Texture	Appearance	Other Characteristics	Rock Name	Where/How formed	Rock Type
		May feel powdery	Rhyolite	Erupted by volcanoes	
Very small crystals (can't see without hand lens)			Andesite	Erupted by volcanoes	
		May contain large green or white crystals	Basalt	Erupted by volcanoes	
Medium to large crystals (can see without hand lens)			Granite	Volcanic; cools underground	IGNEOUS ROCKS
		"Salt-and-pepper" appearance	Diorite	Volcanic; cools underground	Crystals fit together ("interlocking") randomly
		May look "greasy"	Gabbro	Volcanic; cools underground	
Glassy		Translucent	Obsidian	Erupted by volcanoes	
Frothy / spongelike		Very light, floats in water	Pumice	Erupted by volcanoes	
		Light but won't float	Scoria	Erupted by volcanoes	

## IMAGE CREDITS:

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granite - Earth Science World Image Bank: i8bi3k © Dr. Richard Busch diorite - Courtesy USGS http://libraryphoto.cr.usgs.gov/cgi-bin/show\_picture.cgi?ID=ID.%20Huber,%20N.K.%20%2013ct

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Rock Chart © 2016 American Geosciences Institute



Texture		Appearance	Other Characteristics	Rock Name	Where/How formed	Rock Type
Large grains / fragments			Contains pieces of other rocks	Conglomerate/ Breccia	Rivers, streams	
Sand sized grains / fragments			May contain fossils	Sandstone	Beaches, lakes, rivers, streams	SEDIMENTARY ROCKS  Grains cemented together, may be layered or contain fossils
Very small grains - cannot see without hand lens			May contain fossils	Shale	Lakes, basins, deep ocean	
			Fizzes in vinegar (contains calcium carbonate), may contain fossils	Limestone	Shallow ocean	
			Breaks like glass (curved edges)	Chert	Shallow ocean	
Layered	Very small crystals		Sounds like ceramic when tapped	Slate	Metamorphosed shale	METAMORPHIC ROCKS  Crystals fit together ("interlocking"), in a specific orientation, may be layered
	Medium to large crystals		Sparkles, shiny	Schist	Metamorphosed slate, shale	
	Small to large crystals		Alternating bands of light and dark crystals	Gneiss	Metamorphosed schist, granite	
No layers	Small to large crystals		Fizzes with vinegar when scratched (contains calcium carbonate)	Marble	Metamorphosed limestone	
	No separate crystals		Looks "sugary"	Quartzite	Metamorphosed sandstone	