



What do all of these have in common?

Talc



What is Talca

Talc is used in a wide variety of products that we see everyday. It is an important ingredient in rubber, a filler and whitener in paint, a filler and brightening agent in high-quality papers, and a primary ingredient in many types of cosmetics.



Minerals

They are:

- 1) Naturally occurring,
- 2)Inorganic
- 3)Solids
- 4) with a definite chemical composition
- 5) and an ordered internal crystalline structure.

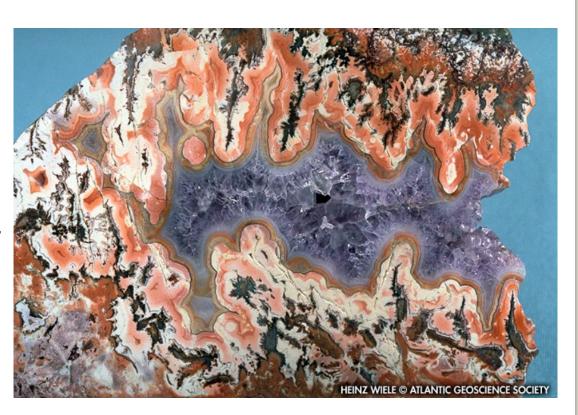


(Atoms \rightarrow Elements \rightarrow Minerals \rightarrow Rocks)

Naturally occurring → Formed by natural processes

Solid →

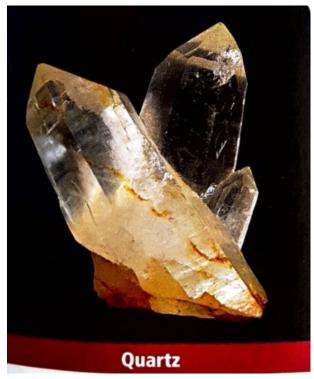
Definite shape and volume, <u>Not</u> a gas or a liquid



Inorganic → They are not alive and never were alive

Definite chemical composition





Some minerals are composed of just one element. Example – Gold = Au Most minerals are composed of compounds. Example – Quartz = SiO₂

An ordered internal crystalline structure

Displayed by its crystal shape



Is Ice a Mineral?





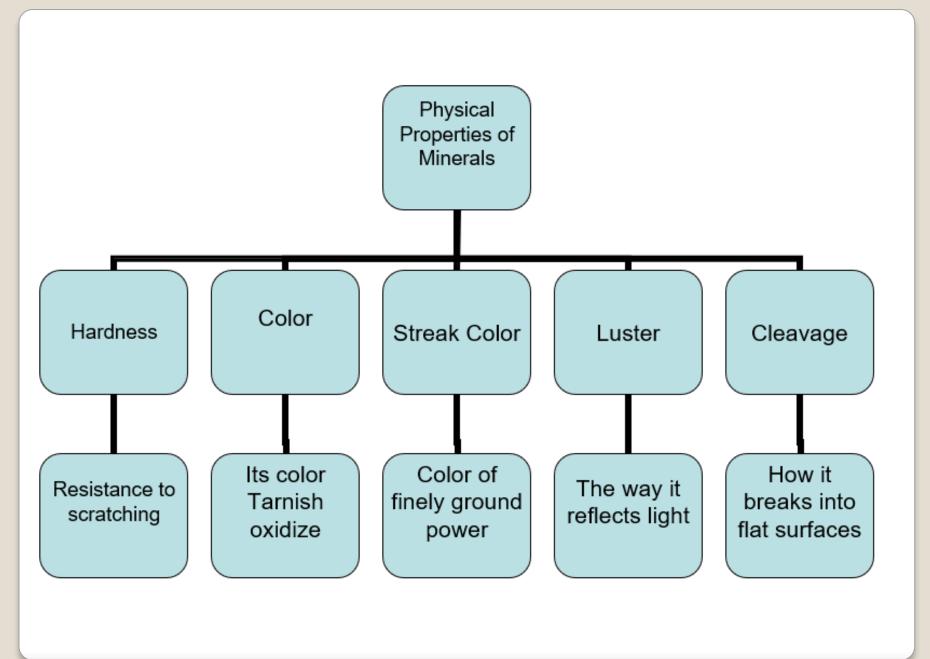


Is Ice a Mineral?

- Is ice a mineral?
 - Think about this:
 - Is it a solid? Yes
 - Is it pure (Made up of one substance)? Yes
 - Is it living or non-living? Non-living
 - Does it occur naturally? (No help needed?) Yes

So ICE is a mineral! But what about when it melts? Since it is no longer a solid it is no longer a mineral.





Colour

The color of a mineral is the first thing most people notice

- It can also be the least useful in identifying a mineral.
- Many minerals can have the same colour
- Most minerals occur in more than one color.
 - E.g.: Quartz can be clear, white, yellow, purple, or black.



Red Minerals

Spinel (octahedral) Garnet (dodecahedral) Corundum (hexagonal)







Which would be a more helpful way to distinguish these three minerals, colour or crystal shape?



Hardness

Hardness describes a minerals <u>resistance to</u> <u>scratching</u>, therefore representing the strength of atomic bonds.

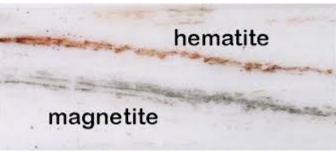
 Hardness is measured on a scale of 1 – 10, with 1 being the softest mineral and 10 being the hardest mineral.



Streak Colour

Streak color is an important property of a mineral and is defined as the color of the finely ground powder of the mineral.

- The visible color property is unreliable as an identification method.
- You can find out the streak color of minerals by using the streak plates.
- Rub each mineral sample once across the tile and blow off the extra powder.
- The streak color is not always the same color as the mineral. The mineral may come in different colors, but the streak is always the same.
- Not all minerals have the same streak color.



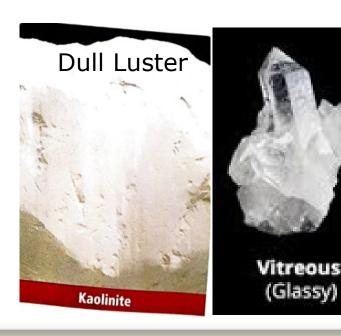


Luster

Luster describes the way a mineral reflects light.

- Minerals can be categorized as Metallic or Nonmetallic
- Nonmetallic can be categorized as:
 - Dull
 - Earthy
 - Glassy
 - Waxy







Cleavage

Cleavage describes <u>how a mineral</u> <u>breaks along flat surfaces</u> (usually one, two, three or four surfaces).

- Minerals have all different shapes because they all break in different ways
- Cleavage is determined by the crystal structure of the mineral. The mineral will break along a plane/flat surface where the bonds are weak.





Cleavage -How many flat surfaces? Are they at 90 degrees?





