



Classifying Rocks

Mohs Scale of Mineral Hardness

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Minerals can be scaled according to their ability to visibly scratch another mineral. The German geologist Friedrich Mohs created a scale that orders minerals according to their hardness. A score of 1 is the softest material and 10 is the hardest.

1 talc



6 orthoclase



2 gypsum



7 quartz



3 calcite



8 topaz



4 fluorite



9 corundum
(ruby & sapphire)



5 apatite



10 diamond

