

BAUXITE $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3 + \text{AlO}(\text{OH})$



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Unknown Origin

What does it look like?

The rock contains rounded, red-brown grains with an earthy lustre.

What is it used for?

The aluminum (Al) in alloys, foil, beverage cans, car engines, aircrafts and sporting goods.



HARDNESS

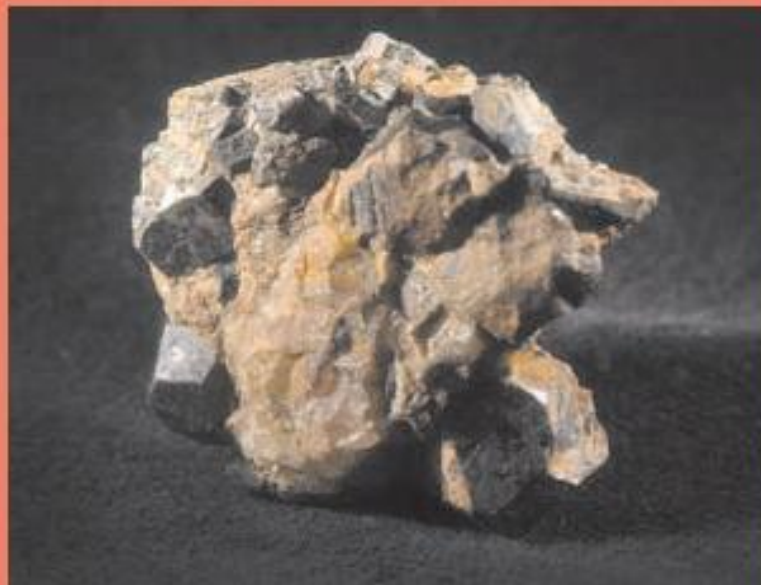


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CASSITERITE SnO_2



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Altenberg, Saxony, Germany

What does it look like?

Brown to black crystals with a diamond-like to metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

The tin (Sn) for anti-corrosion plating, solder, 'tin' cans and housewares.



HARDNESS



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CHROMITE FeCr_2O_4



Dynamic Earth Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

“Ring of Fire”, Ontario Canada

What does it look like?

Black with metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

Source of chromium (Cr). Cr in alloys, pigments, wood preservatives and leather tanning.

55

HARDNESS

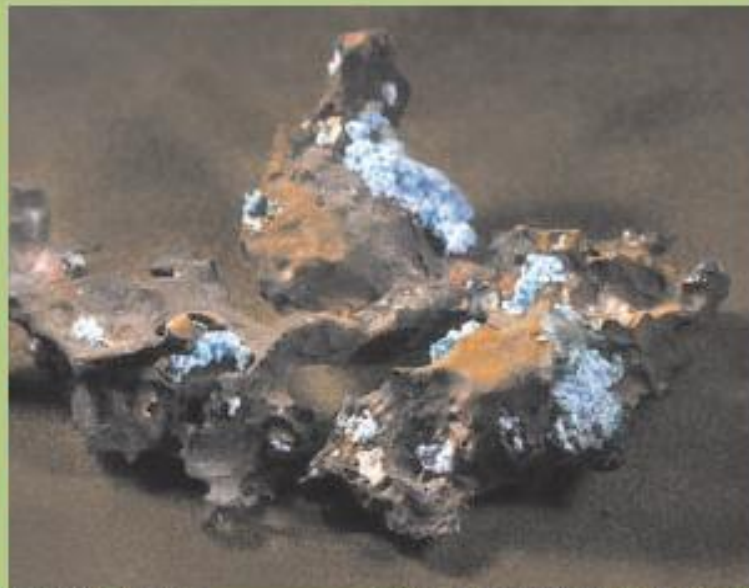
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COPPER Cu



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Keweenaw Peninsula, Michigan, USA

What does it look like?

Copper red with a shiny, metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

Copper (Cu) in electrical wiring, plumbing, alloys (brass, bronze), coins, machinery and electronics.

25

HARDNESS

4

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CELESTITE SrSO_4



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Lime City, Ohio USA

What does it look like?

Bluish-white colour; glassy to pearly lustre.

What is it used for?

The strontium (Sr) is used in fireworks, flares and tracer bullets.



HARDNESS



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ILMENITE FeTiO_3



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Faraday Mine, Bancroft, Ontario, Canada

What does it look like?

Black with a metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

Titanium (Ti) in light-weight alloys, artificial limbs, sporting goods and sunscreens.

55

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2

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SCHEELITE CaWO_4



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Hunan, China

What does it look like?

Orange-red colour; glassy to diamond-like lustre.

What is it used for?

The tungsten (W) in light bulbs, electronics, drill bits, saw teeth and rocket engines.



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SPHAEROCOBALTITE CoCO_3



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Tsumeb, Namibia

What does it look like?

Rose red to pink; glassy to diamond-like lustre.

What is it used for?

Fine crystals for collecting and trading.



HARDNESS



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SPHALERITE ZnS



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Joplin, Missouri USA

What does it look like?

Brown-black, resinous to greasy lustre.

What is it used for?

The zinc (Zn) in anti-rust coating, alloys, coins, vitamins, medicines, batteries, paints.



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STIBNITE Sb_2S_3



chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Herja Mine, Baia Mare, Romania

What does it look like?

Lead-gray colour; metallic lustre with a pale blue tint.

What is it used for?

Collecting and trading. The antimony (Sb) in steel, electronics and fire retardants.



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STIBNITE Sb_2S_3



Dynamic Earth Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Xikuangshan Mine, Leng Shui Jiang, China

What does it look like?

Lead-gray colour; metallic lustre with a pale blue tint.

What is it used for?

Collecting and trading. The antimony (Sb) in steel, electronics and fire retardants.



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GOLD Au



Dynamic Earth Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Granada Mine, Québec Canada

What does it look like?

'Golden' yellow that does not tarnish; metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

Gold (Au) in jewellery, dentistry, scientific instruments, electronics, coins and medallions.



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CHALCOPYRITE WITH BORNITE CuFeS_2



Dynamic Earth Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Sudbury, Ontario Canada

What does it look like?

Brass to golden yellow, also known as 'fool's gold'; metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

Copper (Cu) in electrical wiring, plumbing, alloys, electronics and coins.



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PENTLANDITE $(\text{Fe},\text{Ni})_9\text{S}_8$



Dynamic Earth Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Sudbury, Ontario Canada

What does it look like?

Silvery to yellowish-bronze mass; crystals are rare; metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

Main source of nickel (Ni). The nickel in stainless steel, home appliances and in coins.



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VANADINITE $\text{Pb}_5(\text{VO}_4)_3\text{Cl}$



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Mibladen, Morocco

What does it look like?

Red six-sided (hexagonal) crystals; resinous lustre.

What is it used for?

Collecting and trading. The vanadium (V) as catalyst in the production of acids.



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AZURITE $\text{Cu}_3(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_2$



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Zacatecas, Mexico

What does it look like?

Deep blue colour with a glassy lustre.

What is it used for?

In jewellery and as paint pigment. The copper in electrical wiring, plumbing and many other uses.



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CONICALCITE $\text{CaCu}(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{OH})$



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Ojuela Mine, Mapimi, Durango Mexico

What does it look like?

Bright green grape-like shapes; glassy lustre.

What is it used for?

For collecting and trading, as a gemstone.



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MALACHITE $\text{Cu}_2\text{CO}_3(\text{OH})_2$



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Star mine, Katanga, Zaire

What does it look like?

Green; glassy to dull lustre.

What is it used for?

Minor source of copper (Cu); gemstone, ornamental stone, carvings.



HARDNESS RARITY

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ARAGONITE CaCO_3



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Tazouta Mine, Morocco

What does it look like?

Orange-brown; glassy to resinous lustre.

What is it used for?

Fine crystals for collecting, trading and occasionally in jewellery.



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CALCITE CaCO_3



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Paul Frank Quarry, Indiana, USA

What does it look like?

Golden-brown transparent crystals; silky lustre.

What is it used for?

In cement, concrete, paints, rubber, medicine, gardening, agriculture and many more.



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ZINCITE $(\text{Zn}, \text{Mn})\text{O}$



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Unknown Origin

What does it look like?

Deep red; diamond-like lustre.

What is it used for?

Zincite for collecting and trading. The zinc (Zn) in pharmaceuticals to heal skin, hair and rheumatism.



HARDNESS

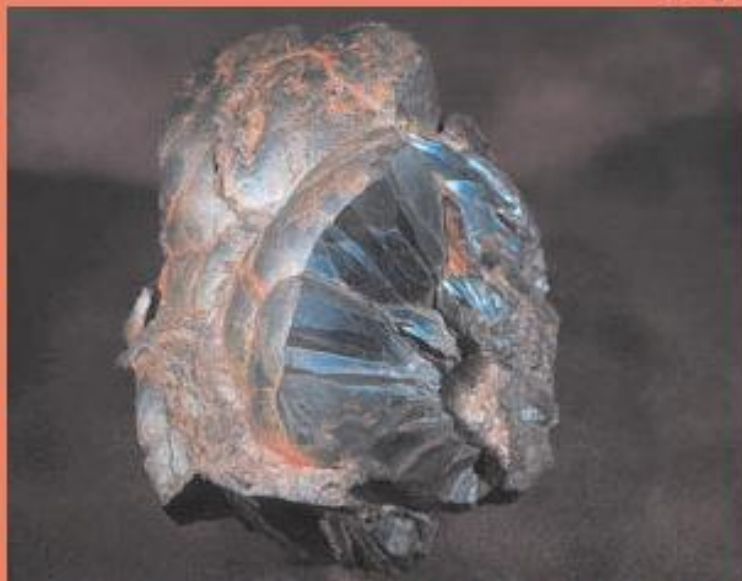
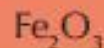


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HEMATITE (KIDNEY ORE)



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Cumberland, England

What does it look like?

Red-gray in kidney-like mass; metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

Hematite is the most important source of iron (Fe); jet black hematite is popular in jewellery.



HARDNESS



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BARITE ROSE BaSO_4



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Unknown Origin

What does it look like?

"Rose-petals" are white and orange; glassy to pearly lustre.

What is it used for?

As "heavy mud" in petroleum industry. The barium (Ba) in chemical industry, paints, paper, rubber and glass.



HARDNESS

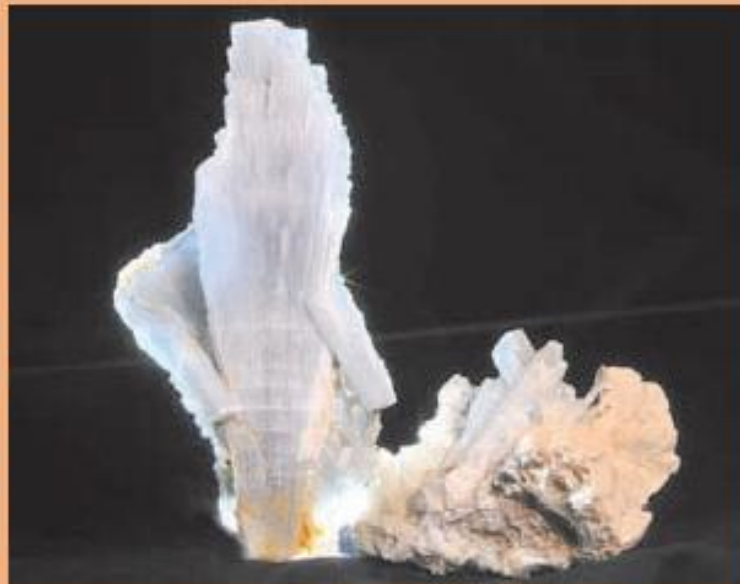


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ANHYDRITE CaSO_4



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Chihuahua, Mexico

What does it look like?

Bluish white; pearly to glassy lustre.

What is it used for?

In cement, filler in paper, soil conditioner. The sulfur (S) is used for sulfuric acid.



HARDNESS

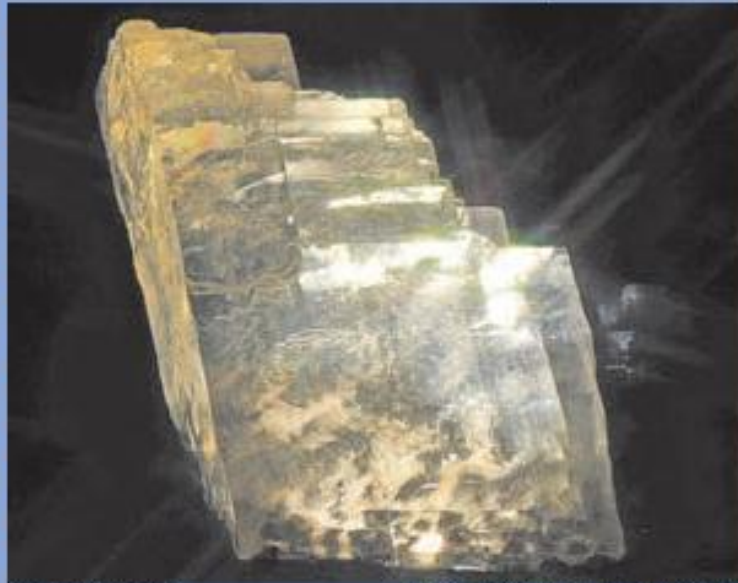


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CALCITE (OPTICAL) CaCO_3



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Faraday Mine, Bancroft, Ontario Canada

What does it look like?

Almost colourless and ultra pure calcite;
glassy lustre.

What is it used for?

Shows the polarization of light; the Vikings'
"Sun Stone".



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APATITE $\text{Ca}_5(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{OH},\text{F},\text{Cl})$



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Yates Mine, Otter Lake, Québec Canada

What does it look like?

Green and green-brown; glassy lustre.

What is it used for?

“Bone grafting” in medicine; jewellery. The phosphorous (P) is used for fertilizers.



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FLUORITE CaF_2



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Rosiclare, Illinois USA

What does it look like?

Purple cubes; glassy lustre.

What is it used for?

As flux in steel and aluminum smelting; in hydrofluoric acid (HF); in high quality lenses.



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HALITE NaCl



Dynamic Earth Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Windsor, Ontario Canada

What does it look like?

Colourless to white; glassy lustre.

What is it used for?

Table salt, food preservative, road salt and water softener.



HARDNESS

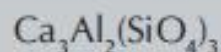


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PINK GROSSULAR



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Unknown Origin

What does it look like?

Pink; greasy to glassy lustre.

What is it used for?

Rare gemstone, jewellery, collecting and trading.



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PYRITE CUBE FeS_2



Dynamic Earth Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Minas Victoria, La Rioja, Spain

What does it look like?

Brassy yellow, cubes almost 1 cubic centimetre;
metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

Pyrite for ignition in early firearms in 16th and
17th century; today for collecting and trading.



HARDNESS

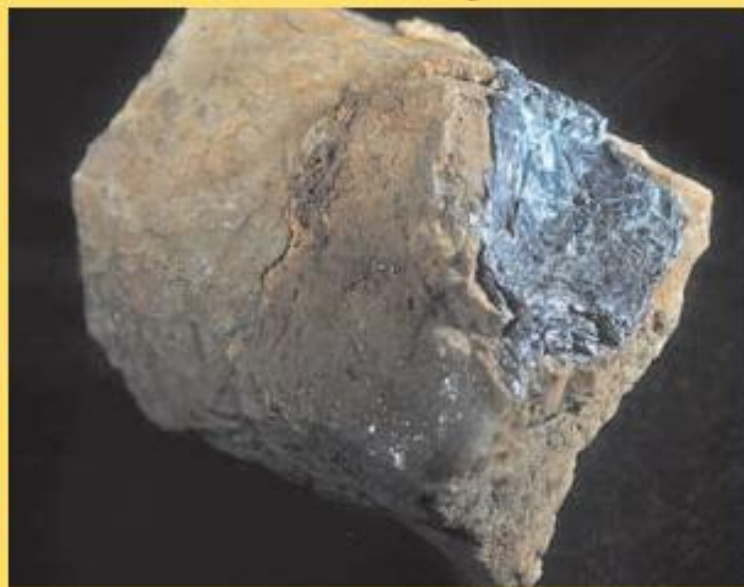


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MOLYBDENITE MoS_2



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Acme Mine, Gatineau Co., Québec Canada

What does it look like?

Black with a metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

The molybdenum (Mo) in alloys, aircraft parts, armour and high-temperature lubricants.



HARDNESS

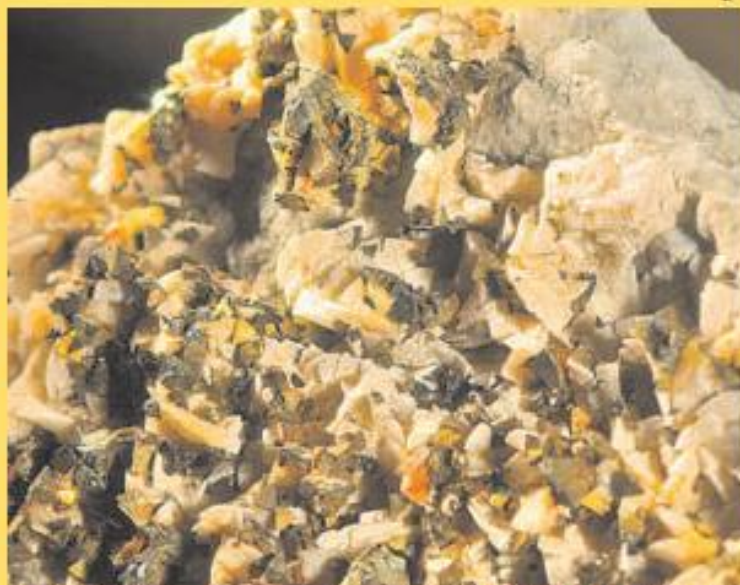


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CHALCOPYRITE ON DOLOMITE CuFeS_2



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Unknown Origin

What does it look like?

Brass to golden yellow, also known as 'fool's gold'; metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

The copper (Cu) in plumbing pipes, electrical wire, coins, alloyed with tin it forms brass.



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DOLOMITE, CALCITE & QUARTZ $\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Greely, Ontario Canada

What does it look like?

White, pink and tan; glassy to pearly lustre.

What is it used for?

Dolomite as building stone in road construction; magnesia (MgO) in Portland cement and in medicine.



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BORNITE Cu_5FeS_4



Dynamic Earth Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Zacatecas, Mexico

What does it look like?

Tarnished with air to blue-purple-iridescent
“peacock ore”; metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

The copper in electrical wiring, plumbing and
many other uses.



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GRAPHITE C



Dynamic Earth Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Madagascar

What does it look like?

Black with a metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

Graphite in heat resistant vessels, as a solid lubricant and the 'lead' in pencils.



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CHALCOPYRITE IN CALCITE CuFeS_2



Dynamic Earth Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Unknown Origin

What does it look like?

Brass to golden yellow, also known as 'fool's gold'; metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

Copper (Cu) in electrical wiring, plumbing, alloys, electronics and coins.



HARDNESS



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SULFUR s



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Napa Volcano, Southern Potosi, Bolivia

What does it look like?

Bright yellow; resinous to greasy lustre.

What is it used for?

In rubbers, fungicides and pesticides, in wine making (sulfites), fertilizer and explosives.



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VESUVIANITE $\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{Mg}, \text{Fe})_2\text{Al}_4(\text{SiO}_4)_5(\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7)_2(\text{OH})_4$



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Jeffrey Mine, Asbestos, Québec Canada

What does it look like?

Mostly green and purple crystals; glassy lustre.

What is it used for?

Collecting and trading; good crystals as gemstones and in jewellery.



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ULEXITE $\text{NaCaB}_5\text{O}_6(\text{OH})_6 \cdot 5(\text{H}_2\text{O})$



Dynamic Earth Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Boron, California USA

What does it look like?

Colourless 'fiber optic' needles; silky lustre.

What is it used for?

Ulexite as 'TV Rock'. Boron (B) in household products, fire retardants, fungi- and insecticides.



HARDNESS

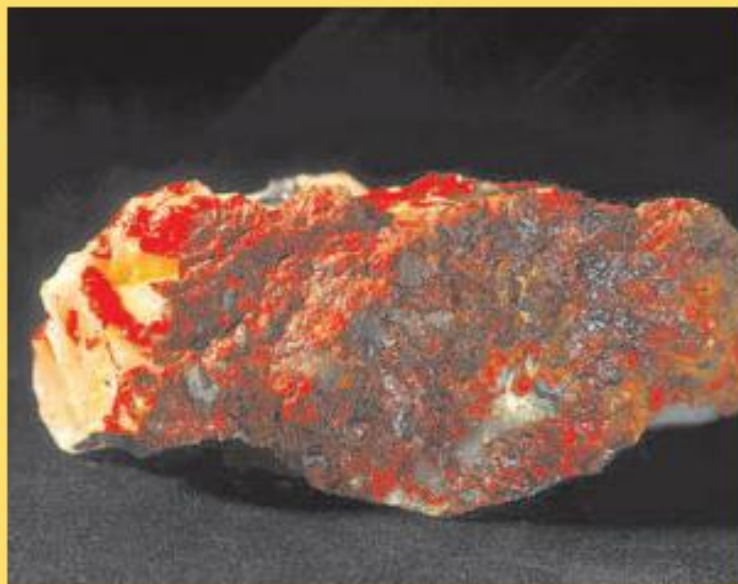


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REALGAR As_2S_3



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Getchell Mine, Nevada USA

What does it look like?

Deep red to orange; resinous lustre.

What is it used for?

Due to the toxicity of arsenic (As) most of its uses, for example in fireworks, have been stopped.



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GALENA PbS



Vivkery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Unknown Origin

What does it look like?

Steel grey, shiny, tarnishes to dull grey;
metallic lustre.

What is it used for?

Main source of lead (Pb). Pb for lead acid
batteries, pipes, solder and shot.



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TALC $Mg_3Si_4O_{10}(OH)_2$



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Chester, Vermont USA

What does it look like?

Apple green; pearly lustre.

What is it used for?

In paints, ceramics, rubber, insecticides, paper, talcum powder, as 'soapstone' for carvings.



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WULFENITE PbMoO_4



Vickery Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Los Lamentos Mine, Mexico

What does it look like?

Yellow to orange plate-like crystals; glassy lustre.

What is it used for?

Minor source of lead (Pb) and molybdenum (Mo); collecting and trading.



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AMETHYST SiO_2



Chahot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Thunder Bay, Ontario Canada

What does it look like?

Purple, because of iron inclusions in the crystal structure; glassy lustre.

What is it used for?

Ornaments, jewellery, collecting and trading.



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QUARTZ SiO_2



Chabot Collection

Creative Photography by Steve Clapp

Mount Ida, Arizona USA

What does it look like?

Colourless to whitish-tan; glassy lustre.

What is it used for?

Quartz in glass, optics, flux, abrasives, construction, ornaments and jewellery.



HARDNESS











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COLOR CODE / RARITY & HARDNESS

 Native	 Sulfides
 Carbonates	 Sulfates
 Halides	 Oxides
 Silicates	 Other

Mineral Group Color Code

Each card background color corresponds with a different mineral group.

Rarity: The mineral is very common (1), common (2), rare (3) or very rare (4) on the Earth's surface.

Hardness: The mineral's hardness on the Mohs scale from 1 (softest - talc) to 10 (hardest - diamond).

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