

Lustre

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|---|
| | Highest luster | adamantine (diamond-like) |
| | | splendent or specular (a mirror like reflection) |
| | | vitreous (glassy) |
| | | resinous (an appearance like 'resin' or plastic materials) |
| | | greasy (the appearance of oil on water) |
| | | pearly (appearance of natural pearls of some seashells) |
| | | silky (appearance of woven silk or fine fibers) |
| | Dullest luster | earthy or dull (like the surface of dry clay or an egg shell) |

Hardness

| <i>Relative scale</i> | <i>Mineral</i> | <i>Common object</i> |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Hardest | 10 | Diamond |
| | 9 | Corundum |
| | 8 | Topaz |
| | 7 | Quartz |
| | 6 | Feldspar |
| | 5 | Apatite |
| | 4 | Fluorite |
| | 3 | Calcite |
| | 2 | Gypsum |
| Softest | 1 | Talc |

Crystal habit: *descriptive terms*

| <u>Habit</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|-------------------|---|
| Acicular | Occurs as needle-like crystals |
| Amorphous | No crystalline form or imitative shape |
| Anhedral Grains | Granular minerals without the expression of crystal shapes |
| Blocky | Crystal shape appears like 'block', but of equal size (e.g., feldspars) |
| Bladed | Aggregates of thin lath-like crystals (e.g., kyanite) |
| Botryoidal | "Grape-like" rounded forms (e.g., malachite) |
| Columnar | Forms columns |
| Dendritic | Branching "tree-like" growths of great complexity (e.g., pyrolusite) |
| Euhedral Crystals | Occurs as well-formed crystals showing good external form |
| Fibrous | Crystals made up of fibers |
| Nodular | Tuberose forms having irregular protuberances over the surface |
| Massive | Uniformly indistinguishable crystals forming large masses |
| Prismatic | Crystals shaped like slender prisms (e.g., tourmaline) |
| Reniform | "Kidney-like" in shape (e.g., hematite) |
| Stellate | Occurs as spherical, radial aggregates radiating from a "star-like" point |