

Name: _____

Minerals

Minerals are naturally occurring substances formed by geological processes. They are usually solid and have a crystalline structure. Examples of some minerals are: calcite, gypsum, feldspar, pyrite, gold, quartz, diamond, mica, hematite, fluorite.

Directions: Choose one mineral to study. Complete the data below for the mineral you chose.

mineral name	
color	luster
shape of crystal	cleavage
Mohs scale	transparency

.....

Words to use for luster:
dull/earthy, waxy, greasy/oily, pearly, silky, glassy/vitreous, resinous, adamantine (diamond-like), metallic

Words to use for crystal shape:
acicular (fine needles), blebs (round blobs), botryoidal (bunch of grapes), concretion (spherical), dendritic (branch-like), dog-tooth (like a tooth), fibrous (fibers), octahedral (8-sided), massive (chunk with no crystal shape), tabular (thin sheets)

Words to use for cleavage:
perfect 1 way: breaks on one perfect cleavage plane
perfect 2 ways: breaks into elongated boxy shapes, 90 degree angles
perfect 3 ways: breaks into pieces that look like perfect boxes
no cleavage: does not break regularly

Words to use for transparency:
transparent: clear, see through when sliced thin, called "gemmy"
translucent: see shapes & shadows through it when sliced thin, may be cloudy
opaque: can't see through it at all when sliced thin, rarely used for gemstones