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12.001 Introduction to Geology Spring 2008

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Mineral	Chemical formula	Cleavage planes and number of cleavage directions	Silicate structure	Specimen
		1 plane	Isolated tetrahedra	
Olivine	(Mg, Fe) ₂ SiO ₄			

Isolated tetrahedra (soro- and nesosilicates)

Olivine group: forsterite-fayalite solid solution

Mineral	Chemical formula	Cleavage planes and number of cleavage directions	Silicate structure	Specimen
		1 plane	l solated tetrahedra	
Olivine	(Mg, Fe) ₂ SiO ₄			
		2 planes at 90°	Single chains	
Pyroxene	(Mg, Fe)SiO ₃			

Mineral	Chemical formula	Cleavage planes and number of cleavage directions	Silicate structure	Specimen
		1 plane	Isolated tetrahedra	
Olivine	(Mg, Fe) ₂ SiO ₄			
		2 planes at 90°	Single chains	
Pyroxene	(Mg, Fe)SiO ₃			Images removed due to copyright restrictions.
		2 planes at 60° and 120°	Double chains	

Amphibole $Ca_2(Mg, Fe)_5Si_8O_{22}(OH)_2$

Single chains of tetrahedra

Pyroxene group

Double chains of tetrahedra

Amphibole group

Mineral	Chemical formula	Cleavage planes and number of cleavage directions	Silicate structure	Specimen
		1 plane	I solated tetrahedra	
Olivine	(Mg, Fe) ₂ SiO ₄			
		2 planes at 90°	Single chains	
Pyroxene	(Mg, Fe)SiO ₃			
				Images removed due to copyright restrictions.
		2 planes at 60° and 120°	Double chains	
Amphibole	Ca ₂ (Mg, Fe) ₅ Si ₈ O ₂₂ (OH) ₂			

1	plane	

Sheets

Micas

Biotite: K(Mg, Fe)₃AlSi₃O₁₀(OH)₂

Muscovite: KAI₂(AISi₃O₁₀)(OH)₂

Sheets of tetrahedra (phyllosilicates)

Mica group

Mineral	Chemical formula	Cleavage planes and number of cleavage directions	Silicate s structure	Specimen
Olivine	(Mg, Fe) ₂ SiO ₄	1 plane	I solated tetrahedra	
Pyroxene	(Mg, Fe)SiO ₃	2 planes at 90°	Single chains	
Amphibole	Са ₂ (Mg, Fe) ₅ Si ₈ O ₂₂ (OH) ₂	2 planes at 60° and 120°	Double chains	Images removed due to copyright restrictions.
		1 plane	Sheets	
Micas	Muscovite: KAI ₂ (AISi ₃ O ₁₀)(OH) ₂			
	Biotite: K(Mg, Fe) ₃ AISi ₃ O ₁₀ (OH) ₂			
Feldsnars	Orthoclase feldspar: KAISi ₃ O ₈	2 planes at 90°	Three-dimensional framework	
relaspars	Plagioclase feldspar: (Ca, Na) AlSi ₃ O ₈			

3-D frameworks of tetrahedra (tectosilicates)

Feldspar group

Feldspars







Rose-colored nanofibers cause the color in rose quartz: George Rossman, CalTech

Courtesy of George R. Rossman. Used with permission.

Name	Composition
amber	hydrocarbon (fossil resin)
beryl	Be ₃ Al ₂ Si ₄ O ₁₈
aquamarine	5 1 4 10
emerald	•
chrysoceryl	BeAl ₂ O ₄
catseve	"
corundum	ALO3
ruby	' (with trace of Cr)
sapphire	" (with trace of Ti)
diamond	с
feldspar	KAlSi 304
amazonstone	II.
garnet	(Ca,Mg,Fe) ₃ (Al,Fe,Cr) ₂ (SiO ₄) ₃
jadeite	Na(Al,Fe)Si 2O4
peridot	MgsiO₄
opal	hydrous silica
pearl	CaCO3
quartz	SIO2
agate	"
amethyst	u .
jasper	u .
onyx	н
spinel	MgAl₂O₄
topaz	Al ₂ SIO ₄ (F,OH) ₂
turquoise	CuAl ₄ (PO ₄) ₄ (OH) ₈ • 5H ₂ O