



# Rocks

## Quartzite

### Type:

Metamorphic; regional.

### Texture/Appearance:

Massive, with generally small grain size; sometimes saccharoidal. Grain size (sand size,  $\frac{1}{16}$ -2mm) dependent on original detritus. Generally non-foliated, but may appear schistose with increasing mica content.

### Color:

Various, but typically white if pure quartz. Color variations due to trace minerals, oxidation state of iron, etc.

### Mineralogy/Chemistry:

Composed almost entirely of recrystallized quartz with minor amounts of typical detrital oxides, sulfides, zircon, etc. Also small amounts of mica and feldspars.

### Occurrence/Use:

Widespread occurrence in metasedimentary terrains of various grades. Commonly derived from regional metamorphism of quartz-rich sedimentary rocks (orthoquartzite, greywacke, arkose, siltstone, etc.) or from aplites and pegmatites. Used as a building material and as a raw material in the glass, ceramics, and refractory industries