

# Rocks and Soils

Can you find out about the different types of rock in the table below.

Rock	What does it look like?	What does it feel like?	What is it used for and why?
sandstone			
marble			
chalk			
pumice			
clay			
granite			
slate			

## Useful Words

dull	brittle	hard	soft	sharp	smooth	heavy	jagged	square
strong	round	light	shiny	grainy	grains	rough	crystals	powdery
yellow	brown	grey	black	pink	white	blue	red	green

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# Rocks and Soils - Answers

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<b>Rock</b>	<b>What does it look like?</b>	<b>What does it feel like?</b>	<b>What is it used for and why?</b>
<b>sandstone</b>	<i>grainy</i>	<i>brittle</i>	<i>Sandstone is used for building sand, paving, construction stone and glassmaking because it is tough but easy to cut and carve.</i>
<b>marble</b>	<i>shiny</i>	<i>smooth</i>	<i>Marble is used for sculpting and decorative features in building because of its hardness and durability and ability to be polished until smooth and shiny.</i>
<b>chalk</b>	<i>soft</i>	<i>light</i>	<i>Chalk can be used to adjust the acidity of soil, for writing on a blackboard, in toothpaste, as an indigestion remedy and as a fingerprint powder as it is soft, light and crumbly.</i>
<b>pumice</b>	<i>dull</i>	<i>rough</i>	<i>Pumice is used in concrete, cement, ground up as a polish, used as an abrasive to soften hard skin and to filter water. It is very hard and has coarse, abrasive properties.</i>
<b>clay</b>	<i>heavy</i>	<i>grainy</i>	<i>Clay is used for making pots and plates for cooking and decorative use. It is water resistant and is effective for using in brick making. It is easily mouldable when wet but dries hard – especially when fired to a high temperature.</i>
<b>granite</b>	<i>square</i>	<i>hard</i>	<i>Granite is used as a building material because it is hard and durable. It can be cut and carved and can also be highly polished and used for kitchen worktops.</i>
<b>slate</b>	<i>jagged</i>	<i>sharp</i>	<i>Slate is used for roofing tiles as it is a layered rock and can be easily split to make thin, waterproof tiles. It is easy to break so has to be handled with care when being used.</i>

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