

MINERAL TESTING KIT INSTRUCTIONS

Hardness

Scrape the mineral first on the glass plate, if it scratches the glass it is harder than 6.

Try scratching the mineral with these things in this order:

- 1 if your finger nail scratches the mineral the mineral is softer than 2*
- 2 if the copper coin scratches the mineral the mineral is softer than 3*
- 3 if the metal nail scratches the mineral the mineral is softer than 6*

Density

Take a piece of the mineral about the same size as the piece of quartz in your box and compare their weights to see if the unknown mineral is significantly heavier.

Acid reaction

Put only one drop of acid on the mineral. If it fizzes it is a carbonate. Dry the mineral with tissue paper afterwards.

Streak

Rub the mineral on the streak plate making one line only. The colour of the mark made on the streak plate is the streak. If no mark is made the mineral is harder than the streak plate.

Magnetism

Place the compass on the table and move the mineral around the compass. If the needle moves the mineral is magnetic and therefore magnetite.