

Key facts to remember

1. There are three main types of rock in the Earth's crust. These are sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic.
2. Sedimentary rocks are made from layers of mud and sand, called sediment, that have settled in water and have been squashed over a long time to form rock.
3. Igneous rocks are made from cooled magma or lava.
4. Metamorphic rocks are formed when existing rocks are changed by heat and pressure.
5. Soil is made from a mixture of organic matter, air and rock particles from the underlying rock.

Vocabulary

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Lava | Hot, molten rock that comes out of a volcano |
| Liquid | A material that is runny, can be poured easily and takes the shape of its container |
| Magma | Hot molten rock found in the Earth's mantle |
| Impermeable | Not allowing water is pass through. Also described as waterproof |
| Organic matter | Dead and decaying plants and animals |
| Molten | Metal or rock that is in a liquid state because of great heat |
| Fossils | Fossils are the remains, or traces, of once-living things preserved as rock. |

My memory jogger

Uses of rocks

The appearance and properties of rocks affect how they are used.

Chalk, a sedimentary rock, is soft and can be easily eroded. This makes chalk suitable for writing and drawing on blackboards.



Granite, an igneous rock, is very hard and impermeable. Granite is used for making kitchen work surfaces.



Marble is a metamorphic rock. It is easy to carve and is not easily eroded, making it suitable for sculptures.



Diagram of...

| Sedimentary rocks | Igneous rocks | Metamorphic rocks |
|---|--|---|
|  sandstone |  granite |  marble |
|  limestone |  obsidian |  slate |

This links to...

Geography –
Volcanoes,
tectonic plates

What's next?