



Rocks

Greenstone

Type:

Metamorphic; regional.

Texture/Appearance:

Fine-grained, massive or compact; generally non-schistose.

Color:

Dark, green.

Mineralogy/Chemistry:

Mainly composed of chlorite, actinolite, epidote, and plagioclase, with minor amount of oxides and pyrite common to basic igneous rocks.

Occurrence/Use:

Greenstone is a field term applied to any dark green, compact, altered basic to ultrabasic igneous rock (e.g. basalt, gabbro, diabase, etc.). Commonly found in folded mountain ranged containing ancient volcano-sedimentary sequences, especially of Precambrian age. Massive sulfide ore deposits may be found in association with greenstone units.