



Rocks

Hornfels

Type:

Metamorphic, regional.

Texture/Appearance:

Homogeneous; dense, fine-grained. Granoblastic; may have porphyroblasts or any of the minerals present.

Color:

Varies; light to dark. May be pink, brown, green, or violet.

Mineralogy/Chemistry:

Typically contains abundant andalusite, cordierite, sillimanite, biotite, K-feldspar, and plagioclase. Minor constituents include pyroxene, epidote, hornblende, etc.

Occurrence/Use:

Hornfels occurs in the contact zones of igneous rocks, most often with granite plutons. Medium to high metamorphic grade. No major commercial importance, but it sometimes mined for andalusite and sillimanite which are used in the manufacture of ceramics.