










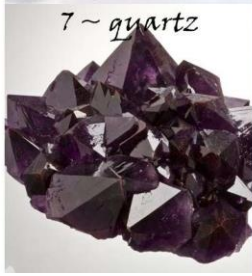
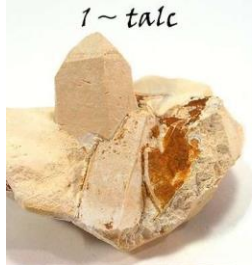


Dr.Nadia Mohammed

The Mohs Hardness Scale is **used as a convenient way to help identify minerals**. A mineral's hardness is a measure of its relative resistance to scratching, measured by scratching the mineral against another substance of known hardness on the Mohs Hardness Scale.

Ten minerals make up the Mohs Scale from softest to hardest, they are talc (1), gypsum (2), calcite (3), fluorite (4), apatite (5), feldspar (6), quartz (7), topaz (8), corundum (9) and **diamond** (10). Mohs selected these minerals because they have clear differences in hardness and they are fairly common and accessible.

Mohs Hardness Scale			
	Mineral Name	Scale Number	Common Object
↑ Increasing Hardness	 → Diamond	10	
	 → Corundum	9	←  Masonry Drill Bit (8.5)
	→ Topaz	8	
	 → Quartz	7	←  Steel Nail (6.5)
	→ Orthoclase	6	
	→ Apatite	5	←  Knife/Glass Plate (5.5)
	 → Fluorite	4	←  Copper Penny (3.5)
	→ Calcite	3	←  Fingernail (2.5)
	→ Gypsum	2	
	 → Talc	1	



MOHS HARDNESS SCALE

I N C R E A S I N G H A R D N E S S ↓		Talc	1	
		Gypsum	2	
		Calcite	3	← <i>Fingernail</i>
		Fluorite	4	← <i>Copper Coin</i>
		Apatite	5	
		Feldspar	6	← <i>Knife/Glass</i>
		Quartz	7	← <i>Steel Tool</i>
		Topaz	8	
		Corundum	9	
		* (not included)	Diamond	10