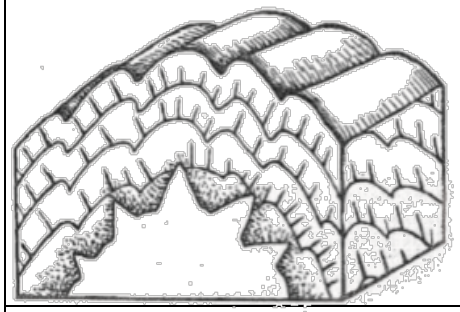
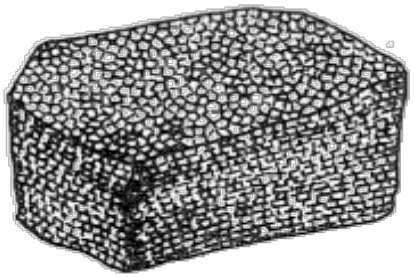
Rocks That Change

METAMORPHIC ROCKS



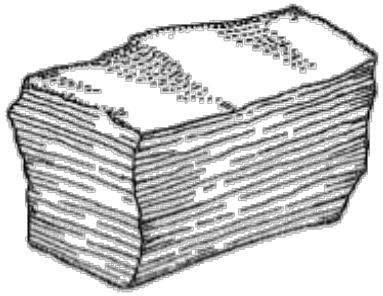


SCHIST

SHIST

Can be BANDED / NONBANDED

Schist is a metamorphic rock that can form from shale. Schists can have minerals including: mica, which makes it a gold color; quartz schist, which is a silvery gold color; and chlorite schist, which is a greenish silver color.



SLATE

Can be BANDED / NONBANDED

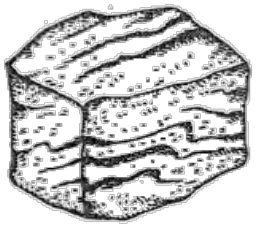
High pressure can change shale into slate. Slate is very hard and splits into flat sheets. That's why it is often used for chalkboards, roof tiles, and patio stones. Slate is usually a dark gray to blue-gray in color.

HORNFELS

HORN-felz

Can be BANDED / NONBANDED

Hornfels comes from slate that was heated by nearby magma. It means "horn rock in German. Hornfels can look very similar to basalt. It is a dark brown or black and can be shiny.

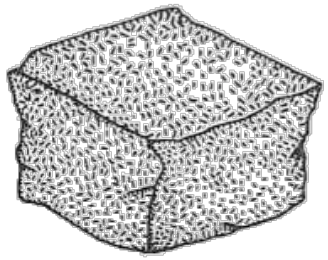


MARBLE

MAR-bul

Can be BANDED / NONBANDED

Intense heat or pressure inside Earth's crust can change limestone into marble. Pure marble is white, but minerals in marble can color it pink green, yellow, or black. Marble can be only one color or can have bands of different colors in it.

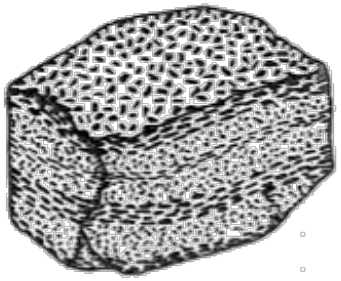


QUARTZITE

KWORT-site

Can be BANDED / NONBANDED

Sandstone under a lot of pressure deep inside Earth can end up changing to quartzite. It can be a grayish tan to reddish in color. Quartzite is very hard. Most quartzite is more than 500 million years old!

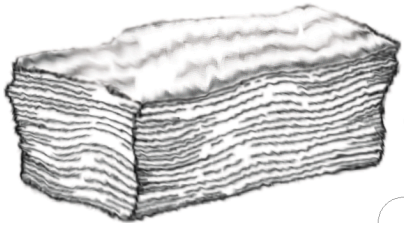


GNEISS

NICE

Can be BANDED / NONBANDED

Under high heat and pressure, gneiss forms from shale, granite or hornblende rocks. Usually this rock has bands black and lighter colors such as grey, pink or white. Sometimes the bands curve where the rock almost melted.



PHYLITE

FIY-lite

Can be BANDED / NONBANDED

This rock started out as slate, but was put under even more heat and pressure to become phylite. Phylite is a medium grey rock that has a wavy or wrinkled surface. The mineral mica gives it a shiny appearance.