



A HARDER THING SCRATCHES A SOFTER THING, NEVER THE OTHER WAY ROUND

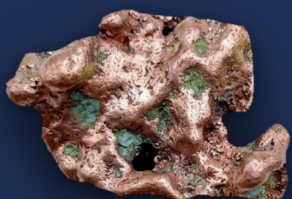
Great Lakes Mohs Hardness Chart



48 real Great Lakes specimens, sorted by what scratches them. **Carry a steel nail and a chip of glass** and you can sort a whole bucket.



2 TO 3.5 · A STEEL NAIL SCRATCHES IT EASILY



NATIVE COPPER
2.5 to 3



BLACK SHALE
2 to 3



CALCITE
3

3 TO 4 · A KNIFE SCRATCHES IT, IT WILL NOT SCRATCH GLASS



LIMESTONE
3 to 4



DOLOSTONE
3.5 to 4



LIGHTNING STONE
3 to 4



KONA DOLOMITE
3.5 to 4



TRILOBITE
3 to 4



CRINOID
3 to 4



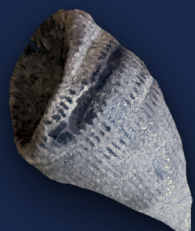
BRACHIOPOD
3 to 4



BRYOZOAN
3 to 4



CLADOPORA
3 to 4



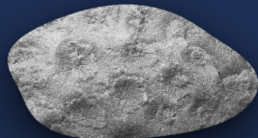
HORN CORAL
3 to 4



PETOSKEY STONE
3 to 4



CHARLEVOIX STONE
3 to 4



STROMATOPOROÏD
3 to 4



PIPE ORGAN CORAL
3 to 4



GASTROPOD
3 to 4



CHAIN CORAL
3 to 4

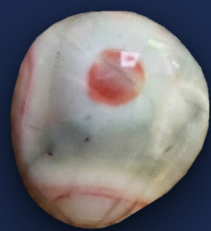


CEPHALOPOD
3 to 4

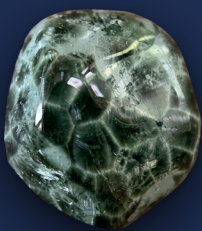
5 TO 6 · ABOUT AS HARD AS GLASS



DATOLITE
5 to 5.5



THOMSONITE
5 to 5.5



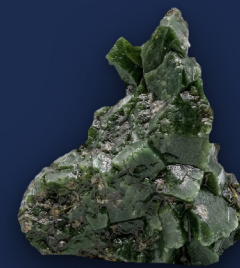
ISLE ROYALE GREENSTONE
5.5 to 6



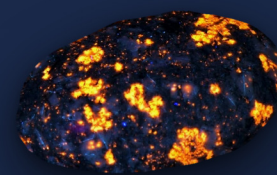
BEACH GLASS
5.5



LELAND BLUE
5.5 to 6



FRANKFORT GREEN
5.5 to 6

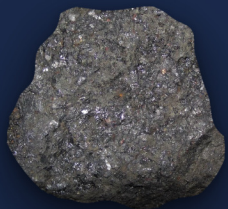


EMBERLITE
5.5 to 6

5.5 TO 7 · SCRATCHES GLASS



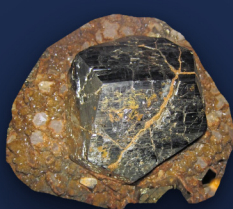
BASALT
5.5 to 6.5



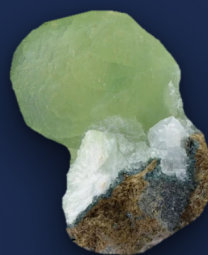
MAGNETITE
5.5 to 6.5



GOWGANDA TILLITE
varies



PYRITE
6 to 6.5



PREHNITE
6 to 6.5



GRANITE
6 to 7



GNEISS
6 to 7



RHYOLITE
6 to 7



SANDSTONE
6 to 7



CONGLOMERATE
6 to 7



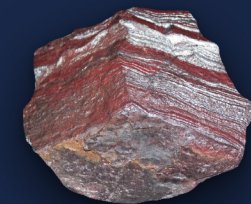
BRECCIA
6 to 7



EPIDOTE
6 to 7



UNAKITE
6 to 7



BANDED IRON
6 to 7



RED JASPER
6.5 to 7



BANDED CHERT
7



QUARTZ
7



QUARTZITE
7



PUDDINGSTONE
7



LAKE SUPERIOR AGATE
7



COPPER AGATE
7

AGATE OR BEACH GLASS?

agate scratches the glass · glass cannot scratch the agate

AGATE OR CHERT?

both are 7, neither wins · agate is glassy and banded, chert is waxy and dull

IS IT A PETOSKEY?

a knife carves a petoskey · if the knife slides off, it is not one

● bedrock ● fossil ● uncommon ● rare ● ultra ● grail

rocks are mixtures, so most read as a range · fossils given for calcite preservation, a chert-replaced one jumps to 7