



Minerals

Quartz (variety Milky)



Crystallography:

Hexagonal -R; 32 (low-quartz.) Hexagonal; 622 (high-quartz.) Distinct crystals are rare; usually massive, fine to coarse crystalline.

Physical Properties:

Cleavage: None; occasional indistinct rhombohedral parting.

Fracture conchoidal; brittle.

Hardness: 7.0.

Specific Gravity: 2.65.

Luster: Vitreous.

Color: Milk white; nearly opaque.

Streak: White.

Composition/Features:

Most nearly a pure chemical compound of silicon and oxygen with constant physical properties. Minute fluid inclusions produce milk white color. Characterized by its color, often greasy luster, conchoidal fracture, and hardness. Infusible. Insoluble except in hydrofluoric acid.

Occurrence/Use:

Widely distributed geologically and occurring in large masses in veins and pegmatites.