



# Minerals

## Quartz (variety Tiger Eye)

$\text{SiO}_2$

### Crystallography:

Hexagonal -R; 32 (low quartz). Hexagonal; 622 (high quartz). Crystalline, fibrous pseudomorph.

### Physical Properties:

**Cleavage:** Generally none; occasional indistinct rhombohedral parting. Fracture conchoidal; brittle.

**Hardness:** 7.0.

**Specific Gravity:** 2.65.

**Luster:** Vitreous to silky.

**Color:** Commonly golden yellow, also brown, blue or red. Opaque to subtranslucent.

**Streak:** White.

### Composition/Features:

Fibrous quartz that forms as a pseudomorph after the fibrous amphibole crocidolite. Parallel fibrous inclusions give the mineral a marked chatoyancy (a band of reflected light at right angles to the length of the fibers) causing a "cat's eye" appearance. Infusible. Insoluble except in hydrofluoric acid.

### Occurrence/Use:

Relatively rare pseudomorphic occurrence. Frequently cut and polished as a gemstone.