

## **mineral** <sup>[1]</sup>

### **Definition:**

a naturally occurring, homogeneous inorganic solid substance having a definite chemical composition and characteristic crystalline structure, color, and hardness; any of various natural substances, as an element, like gold or silver, or an organic derivative, such as coal or petroleum, or a substance, such as stone, sand, salt, or coal, that comes from the ground or water, or a substance that is neither animal nor vegetable; inorganic matter.

---

**Source URL:** <https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/mineral>

### **Links**

[1] <https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/mineral>