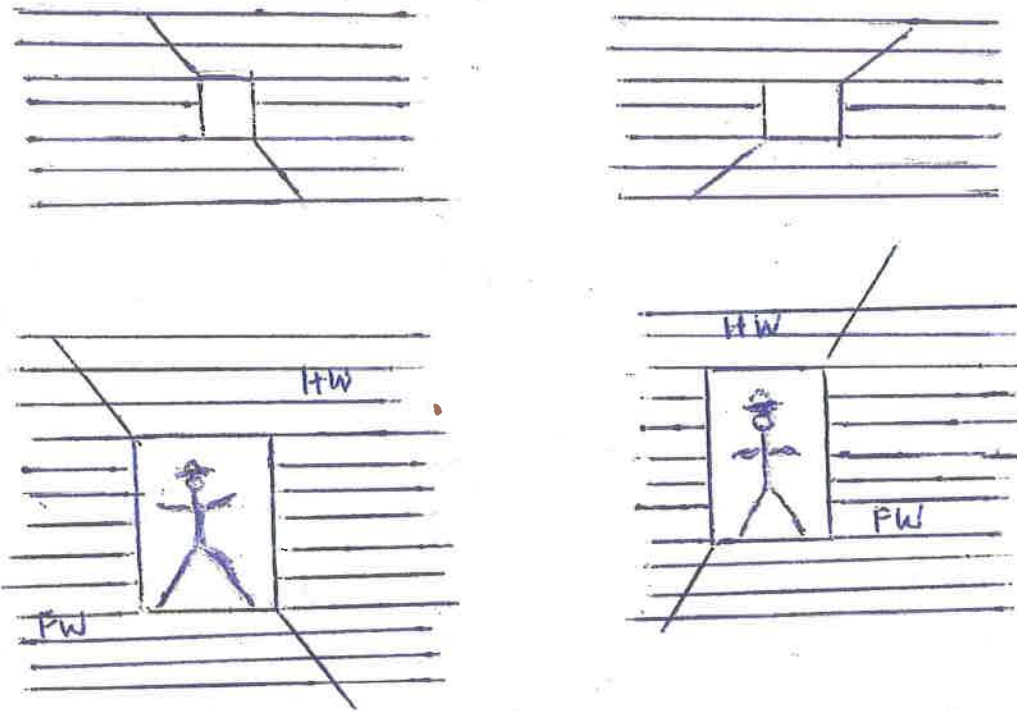


Joint vs. fault

Joint---fracture in the rock where the rocks separate but where the sides do not move relative to each other. Columnar jointing formed when a lava cools and shrinks such as we see along the Pacific coast in Oregon and Washington, at Devil's Tower, the Devil's Postpile in California, the Devil's Causway in England would be examples.

Fault---fracture in the rock where the rocks separate and where the sides do move relative to each other. To understand this movement we have to name each side of the fault.



Place a mine drift (horizontal cut) such that the fault diagonally crosses the drift. In the drift add a miner. As in the diagrams, make sure the miner is wearing a hard hat.

That block of rock hanging above the miner's head is called the **hanging wall** (HW). If you have a map view showing a fault, the dip symbol of the fault points to the hanging wall.

That block of rock on which the miner is standing with his or her feet is called the **footwall** (FW). Feet—foot, anyway you get it.

Normal designation of faults states:

Hanging wall moves (up dip, down dip, or in the strike direction) relative to the footwall.