

SILICATE CLASSIFICATION

SUBCLASS	ARRANGEMENT OF SiO ₄ TETRAHEDRA	RATIO Si : O	NUMBER OF SHARED CORNERS	EXAMPLE
Nesosilicates	Isolated (island)	1 : 4	None	Olivine (Mg, Fe) ₂ SiO ₄
Sorosilicates	Bow-tie	2 : 7	1 of a pair	Hemimorphite Zn ₄ (Si ₂ O ₇)(OH)·H ₂ O
Cyclosilicates	Ring	1 : 3	2	Beryl Be ₃ Al ₂ (Si ₆ O ₁₈)
Inosilicates	Single chain	1 : 3	2	Pyroxene group minerals
	Double chain	4 : 11	2 1/3	Amphibole group minerals
Phyllosilicates	Sheets	2 : 5	3	Talc Mg ₃ (Si ₄ O ₁₀)(OH) ₂
Tectosilicates	Framework	1 : 2	4	Quartz SiO ₂