Ashur university collage

Dept. of Biology

First-year

General geology

Lab. 2

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The three major rock types:

igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary

igneous rock form

magma is molten rock. (Magma may contain suspended solid crystals and gas.) Igneous rocks form when magma solidifies. If the magma is brought to the surface (where it is called lava) by a volcanic eruption, it will solidify into an extrusive igneous rock.

Classification of Igneous Rocks

Igneous rocks are named based on their texture and chemical composition. The texture of an igneous rock (its appearance in terms of grain size and presence of gas bubbles, for example) gives you information on where that rock formed.

Texture refers to a rock's appearance with respect to the size, shape, and arrangement of its grains or other constituents. Igneous textures can be divided into three groups**: crystalline rocks** are made up of interlocking crystals (of, for instance, the minerals quartz and feldspar); **glassy rocks** are composed primarily of glass and contain few, if any, crystals; and **fragmental rocks** are composed of fragments of igneous material.



Gabbro



Diorite



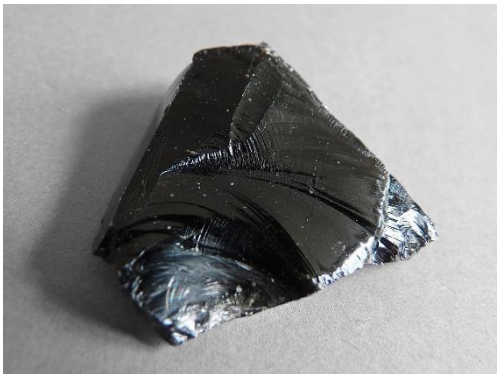
Granite



Basalt



Rhyolite



Obsidian