

Minerals/Metals for Essential Products

Thanks to the National Mining Association for the following minerals matrix.

ALUMINUM Packaging, transportation and building.	ANTIMONY Batteries, cable sheaths, solder, fireworks, semiconductor technology.	ASBESTOS Fireproof fabrics, brake linings, yarn, cloth, paper, paint filler, roofing, etc.	BARIUM Radiography, filler or extender in cloth, ink and plastics products.
BAUXITE The main source of aluminum.	BERYLLIUM Aircraft alloys, fluorescent lamps, X-ray tubes, nuclear industry.	CHROMITE Used mainly in the chemical and metallurgical industries.	COBALT Superalloys for jet engines, chemicals, permanent magnets, etc.
COLUMBITE-TANTALITE GROUP Additive for steel making and in superalloys.	COPPER Electric cables and wires, switches, plumbing, heating, etc.	FELDSPAR Glass and ceramics, pater and enamelware, soaps, bonding agent.	FLUORITE (Fluorspar) pottery, ceramics, optical & plastics industries, etc.
GOLD Dentistry, medicine, jewelry, coins, scientific, electronic instruments.	GYPSUM Prefabricated wallboard, plaster, cement manufacture, agriculture.	HALITE (SALT) Food seasoning and preservation, soda ash, soaps, highway de-icing.	IRON ORE Steel manufacture, metallurgy by-products, auto parts, medicine, etc.
LEAD Batteries, solders, electrical & electronic applications, TVs.	LITHIUM Batteries, ceramics & glass, medicine, lubricants & greases.	MANGANESE Essential for iron & steel production.	MICA Electronic insulators, paints, joint cement, dusting agent.
MOLYBDENUM Alloy steels, tool steels, cast irons, super alloys, chemicals & lubricants.	NICKEL Alloy to stainless steel, chemical & aerospace industries.	PERLITE Roof insulation boards, fillers, filter aids, horticulture.	PLATINUM GROUP Catalytic converters, jewelry, electrical contacts, dental alloys.
PHOSPHATE ROCK Fertilizers, livestock feed additives, elemental phosphorus, etc.	POTASH Fertilizer, medicine, chemical industry, color effects on brass, etc.	PYRITE Sulfur, sulfuric acid and sulfur dioxide production, jewelry.	QUARTZ Semiprecious gem stone, pressure gauges, oscillators, resonators.
SILICA Computer chips, glass & refractory materials, ceramics, abrasives, etc.	SILVER Photography, chemistry, jewelry, currency, electronics, dental.	SODIUM CARBONATE Glass container manufacture, fiberglass.	STIBNITE A major source mineral for antimony.
SULFUR Sulfuric acid, fertilizers, chemicals, explosives, fungicides, dyestuff.	TANTALUM Electronic components, weapon systems, high-speed tools, optical glass.	TITANIUM Jet engines, airframes, space & missile applications.	TUNGSTEN Metalworking, light bulb filament, glass coloring, textile dyes, etc.
URANIUM 20% of U.S. electricity generation, nuclear medicine, atomic dating.	VANADIUM Metal alloys, aerospace, dyes, target material for X-rays.	ZEOLITES Aquaculture, water softeners, catalysts, cat litter, odor control.	ZINC Protective coating for steel, die casting, as component of brass, et