

Igneous rocks are classified by their origin, texture and mineral composition.

Extrusive Igneous Rocks (Outside the Earth)

Origin - Form from cooled lava on the Earth's surface

Texture - fine grained small or no crystals - because it cools rapidly

Most Common - Basalt (Also - rhyolite)

Mineral Composition - low silica, feldspar

Intrusive Igneous Rocks (Inside the Earth)

Origin - Form when Magma cools beneath the Earth's surface

Texture - coarse-grained, large crystals - because it cools slowly

Most common - Granite

Mineral Composition - high silica, quartz, other minerals determine granites color

Igneous Rocks are used for tools and building materials because they are hard, dense and durable.

Granite- building

pumice and obsidian - tools

Basalt is used for cobblestones and in landscaping.

Perlite is mixed with soil and used to start vegetable seeds.

Lava that is low in silica usually forms dark-colored rocks

Magma that is high in silica usually forms light-colored rocks.