

# Ch2 lesson 4 - Sedimentary Rock

Sediment-small solid pieces of rocks / living things

Sedimentary Rocks form through:

weathering

erosion

deposition

compaction

cementation

Weathering-the breaking down of rocks by freezing / thawing, plant roots, acid, rain, wind, flowing water

Erosion-water, wind, or ice, carries away broken rock

Deposition-sediment settles out of the wind or water carrying it. It is deposited in the ocean or river beds

Compaction: sediment is pressed together

Cementation-dissolved minerals glue the sediment together

Geologists classify rocks by the type of sediment they are made of

Classified into 3 groups

1. Clastic

2. Organic

3. Chemical

Clastic Rocks-formed when rock fragments are squeezed together

- grouped by the size of the rock fragments

- common clastic rocks:
  - shale
  - cobblestone
  - conglomerate
  - breccia
  - sandstone

Organic Rocks-form from the remains of plants and animals

Coal-forms from dead swamp plants

Limestone-forms from the shells and skeletons of sea creatures

Chemical Rocks-form when minerals dissolved in water crystallize

both organic & chemical  
(Limestone)-when calcite dissolved in lakes /seas forms Crystals

can also form when mineral deposits are left when seas/lakes evaporate

rock salt forms when halite forms from evaporation

Sedimentary Rocks are used for tools and building

chert-spearhead

flint-arrowheads

Limestone/sandstone for building

Limestone-cement / steel