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Lava flow consisting mass of irregular congealed fragments.

alkali basalt

Volcanic rock poor in silica, rich in the alkali metals of magnesium and iron. High levels of potassium and sodium can also be present.

basanite

Same as alkali basalt, but alkali metal richer and poorer in silica.

breccia

Coarse-grained clastic rock composed of cemented angular fragments.

carbonatite

Igneous rock primarily composed of carbonate minerals, rather than silica.

cataclastite

Fragmented rock produced by shattering and crushing in a fault zone.

cinder cones

Conical hill formed by accumulation of ejected pyroclastic fragments.

collapse calderas

Larger craters produced by subsidence and collapse of crater floor as underlying magma chamber is emptied in an eruption.

cone sheet

Curved intrusion emplaced in the radial stress field around a large intrusion.

crypto dome

Large blob of viscous magma that expands just beneath the surface lifting surrounding ground upwards tens of hundreds of metres.

debris-avalanche deposits

Deposits produced by the collapse of the flank of a volcano.

dolerite

medium grained (0.5-0.2mm) igneous rock of basaltic composition.

dyke

igneous intrusion formed by vertical ascent of magma into the rock of an area.

epiclastic

Sedimentary rock formed from erosion products of pyroclastic or other volcanic rock.

extrusive

igneous rock that has been emplaced at the surface.

felsic

Igneous rocks with high concentrations of Si, Al, K and Na. - pale colour minerals.

flow banding

streaks produced as igneous rock slowly flows whilst still hot and plastic.

fumarolic

Alteration and recrystallisation as a result of contact with hot volcanic gasses.

gabbro

Coarse crystalline igneous rock - equivalent to the finer grained dolerite and basalt.

hyaloclastite

Rock formed of fragments of altered volcanic glass formed by lava flowing into water leading to explosive mixing.

hydrovolcanic

Explosive volcanic activity driven by the violent expansion of heated boiling groundwater that mixes with magma at or near the surface.

ignimbrites

Rock formed by deposition and consolidation of hot fragments of disintegrated viscous lava and ash in explosive eruptions.

intrusion

Body of rock formed by emplacement of magma underground.

lahar

Volcanic mud flow - formed by rain mixing with volcanic ash.

lateral collapse

large landslide removing flank of volcano.

lava domes

Erupted masses of highly viscous lava.

maar

Broad volcanic crater.

mafic

Relating to iron and magnesium-rich minerals, e.g. olivine.

mantle plume

Concentrate upwelling in the Earth's mantle.

nuée ardente

Deposit from incandescent cloud of volcanic ash and fragments of rock produced in explosive eruptions.

ophiolite

Slice of oceanic crust thrust on top of continental crust.

pahoehoe

Lava flow with a smooth or wrinkled top surface produced by lava of low viscosity.

peridotite

Rock that forms most of the upper mantle.

phenocrysts

Large well shaped crystals in fine-grained igneous rocks.

pillow lavas

Glob shaped lavas produced when the molten rock is extruded into water.

plinian

Very violent explosive volcanic eruption.

pumice

Sponge like rock of very low density as filled with cavities once filled with gas.

rift zones

Linear zones of concentrated extension.

scoria

Fragments of vesicular basaltic rock - less bubble rich than pumice.

shield volcano

A volcano with very gentle slopes, usually composed of lavas of mainly basaltic composition.

sill

Sheet-like igneous intrusion emplaced along existing bedding planes unlike a dyke which cuts across them.

splatter

Scoria hot enough and fluid enough to splatter when it lands.

stratovolcano

A volcano formed by many eruptions building up a classic cone shape.

trachaeae

Fine-grained felsic igneous rock.

tuff cone

Volcanic cone composed mainly of fine ash and breccia produced by hydrovolcanic eruptions.

volcaniclastic

Any clastic rock containing significant amount of volcanic material.

xenolith

Fragment of solid rock which has been incorporated into a magma as it ascends or is erupted.