

Mohs Scale of Hardness

On the chart below minerals with a higher number can scratch all minerals with a lower number. Italicized items are common items used to test hardness. Bolded items are the standard test minerals.

Stones with a hardness of under 4 may not polish at all or will only take a light shine. Most of the stones hobbyists polish are in the 6 to 7 range

<i>Graphite Pencil</i> 1	Willemite..... 5.5	Zircon..... 6.5-7.5
Talc 1	<i>Window Glass</i> 5.5	Quartz 7
Sulphur..... 1.5-2.5	Actinolite..... 5.5-6	Bloodstone..... 7
Gypsum 2	Psilomelane..... 5.5-6	Amethyst..... 7
Alabaster..... 2	Sodalite..... 5.5-6	Aventurine..... 7
Rock Salt..... 2	Hematite..... 5.5-6.5	Ametrine..... 7
Plaster of Paris..... 2	Opal..... 5.5-6.5	Black Opal..... 7
<i>Fingernail</i> 2.2	Magnetite..... 5.5-6.5	Carnelian..... 7
Mercury..... 2-2.5	Rhodonite..... 5.5-6.5	Citrine..... 7
Salt..... 2-3	Tremolite..... 5.5-6.5	Dumortierite..... 7
Amber..... 2.5	Bytownite..... 6	Flint..... 7
Ivory..... 2.5	Orthoclase 6	Onyx..... 7
Fingernail..... 2.5	Thulite..... 6	Rose Quartz..... 7
Pearl..... 2.5	Titanium..... 6	Smoky Quartz..... 7
Zinc..... 2.5	Rhodium..... 6	Tiger's Eye..... 7
Gold..... 2.5-3	Amazonite..... 6-6.5	<i>Ceramic Streak Plate</i> 7.5
Silver..... 2.5-3	Aventurine..... 6-6.5	Andradite..... 7-7.5
<i>Aluminum</i> 2.5-3	Benitoite..... 6-6.5	Danburite..... 7-7.5
Jet..... 2.5-3	Feldspar..... 6-6.5	Garnet..... 7-7.5
<i>Copper Penny</i> 3	Fire Opal..... 6-6.5	Iolite..... 7-7.5
Calcite 3	Labradorite..... 6-6.5	Rhodolite..... 7-7.5
Limestone..... 3	Moonstone..... 6-6.5	Tourmaline..... 7-7.5
Shell..... 3	Marcasite..... 6-6.5	Almandine..... 7.5
Bronze..... 3	Nephrite Jade..... 6-6.5	Andalusite..... 7.5
Coral..... 3	Prehnite..... 6-6.5	Tungsten..... 7.5
Barite..... 3-3.5	Pyrite..... 6-6.5	Morganite..... 7-8
Malachite..... 3.5-4	Rutile..... 6-6.5	Aquamarine..... 7.5-8
Azurite..... 3.5-4	<i>Steel File</i> 6.5	Beryl..... 7.5-8
Fluorite 4	Idocrase..... 6.5	Emerald..... 7.5-8
Platinum..... 4-4.5	Iron Pyrite..... 6.5	Spinel..... 8
<i>Wire Nail</i> 4-5	Iridium..... 6.5	Topaz 8
Iron..... 4-5	Epidote..... 6-7	Yag..... 8
Meteorite..... 4.5	Hiddenite..... 6-7	Chrysoberyl..... 8.5
Palladium..... 4.75	Kunzite..... 6-7	Alexandrite..... 8.5
Apatite 5	Unakite..... 6-7	Cubic Zirconia..... 8.5
Tooth Enamel..... 5	Agate..... 6.5-7	Chromium..... 8.5
Diopside..... 5-6	Chalcedony..... 6.5-7	Tungsten Carbide..... 8.5-9
Hematite..... 5-6	Chrysoprase..... 6.5-7	Corundum 9
Limenite..... 5-6	Heliotrope..... 6.5-7	Ruby..... 9
Lapis Lazuli..... 5-6	Jadeite..... 6.5-7	Sapphire..... 9
Turquoise..... 5-6	Sphene..... 5-5.5	Carborundum..... 9-9.5
<i>Steel Knife Blade</i> 5.1	Thomasonite..... 5-5.5	Moissanite..... 9.25
Obsidian..... 5-5.5	Jasper..... 6.5-7	Fullerite..... 10
Scapolite..... 5-6.5	Peridot..... 6.5-7	Diamond 10
<i>Knife Blade</i> 5.5	Petrified Wood..... 6.5-7	
Enstatite..... 5.5	Sard..... 6.5-7	
Goldstone..... 5.5	Tanzanite..... 6.5-7	
Moldavite..... 5.5	Zoisite..... 6.5-7	