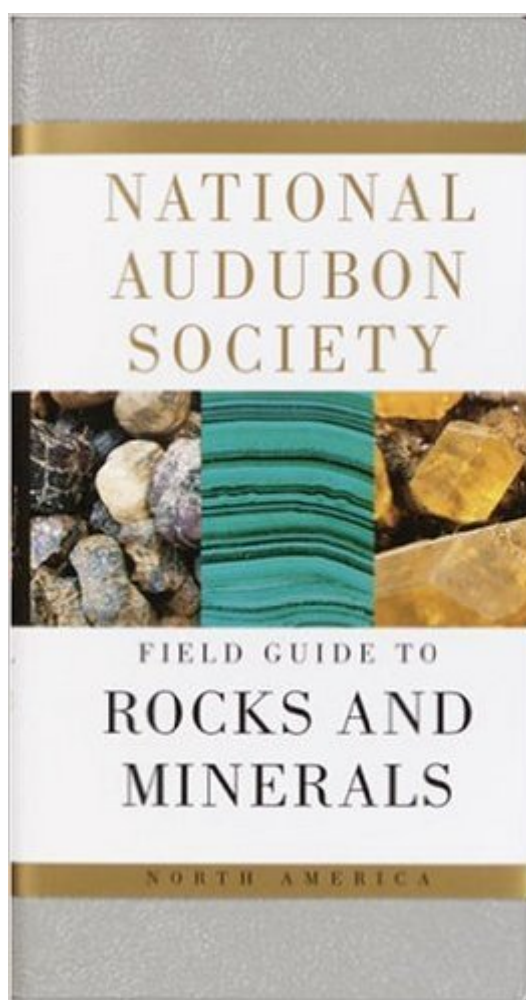


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National Audubon Society Field Guide To Rocks And Minerals: North America (National Audubon Society Field Guides (Paperback))



Synopsis

Perfect for mountain climbers and hikers, this valuable reference covers more rocks and minerals in North America than any other available guide. 794 full-color photographs depict all the important rocks, gems, and minerals -- in many variations of color and crystal form -- and the natural environments in which they occur; written descriptions provide information on field marks, similar rocks and minerals, environment, areas of occurrence, and derivation of names. Includes a guide to mineral collecting and a list of rock-forming minerals

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is an amateur rockhounds must have. Having been through at least ten other titles, This one offers the most in depth, yet easy to understand information. It contains a 230 page section of photographs which are categorized by color, then by formation. Ending out this section they have included several pages containing before and after photographs of select minerals shown in the rough, then as a gem. Below each photograph is a corresponding page number to the mineral description. The mineral description section includes information on the native elements that make up each mineral, Color and Luster description, Hardness, Cleavage, Specific gravity, Crystal formation, Best field marks, Similar species, Environment in which it may be found, and where in North America they occur. For beginners who may not understand what these identifying features mean or how to go about using them, they should refer to Part 1 in the guide, A Guide To Mineral

Identification. Here the authors thoroughly cover each physical property, and the way each can be used in the process of identification. Once familiar with each identifying feature, the Descriptive Key To Minerals section located directly after the photograph section will be your next stop. Using your new found knowledge about the rock or minerals physical properties is made simple in this section. This key is categorized by color. Under each color section the minerals are arranged by increasing hardness which is then broken down by quality and cleavages. Each description also includes other identifying features and a reference to the page that contains the full classification information. For the pro-amateur to expert rockhound, I would recommend The Descriptive Key to Minerals section to be their first stop.

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