



Rocks

Conglomerate

Type:

Sedimentary; clastic.

Texture/Appearance:

Coarse-grained rock containing rounded to subangular clasts of greater than 2mm in diameter scattered in a finer-grained matrix of sand, silt, and/or clay. Structure is somewhat irregular with bedding absent or poorly developed.

Color:

Variable and irregularly distributed based on origin of clasts.

Mineralogy/Chemistry:

Rock and mineral fragments may be of varied composition and size, but quartz is a frequent constituent. Matrix and cementing material may contain quartz, calcite, iron oxide and clay minerals.

Occurrence/Use:

Consolidated gravel, conglomerates are often found as the first sediment to be deposited on an erosion surface and frequently mark marine transgressions. Generally associated with other fluvial deposits, they are of special interest to geologists because the source rocks of clasts may be readily identified. Found in Permian and Triassic deposits and has some use as a building stone.