

2.4 MICA FAMILY & PYROXENE FAMILY**MICA GROUP**

Sl.No	Mineral Property	Hornblende (Amphibole)	Muscovite
1.	Crystal system	Monocline	Monocline
2.	Colour	Black	Colourless or pale yellow
3.	Streak	Colourless	Colourless
4.	Luster	Vitreous to pearly	Vitreous to pearly
5.	Hardness	5-6	2.0-2.5
6.	Specific gravity	3.0-3.4	2.7-3.0
7.	Cleavage	2 sets, perfect	1 set, perfect
8.	Fracture	Uneven	-
9.	Optical properties	Optically negative	Optically negative
10.	Chemical composition	Complex silicates of Ca, Mg and Fe	A complex silicate of K and Al
11.	Form / structure	Crystalline	Foliated / flaky
12.	Special properties	-	Insulator

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PYROXENE GROUP

Sl.No	Mineral Property	Hypersthene (Pyroxene Group)	Augite (Pyroxene Group)
1.	Crystal system	Orthorhombic	Monocline
2.	Colour	Green, greenish black	Variable greyish green or black is predominant
3.	Streak	Colourless	Colourless
4.	Luster	Submetallic	Vitreous
5.	Hardness	5-6	5-6
6.	Specific gravity	3.4-3.5	3.1-3.6
7.	Cleavage	Prismatic	2 sets, perfect
8.	Fracture	Uneven	Uneven
9.	Optical properties	Optically negative	Optically positive
10.	Chemical composition	Silicates of Fe and Mg, with Al in some varieties.	A complex silicate of Ca, Mg, and Fe
11.	Form / structure	Massive form	Crystalline
12.	Special properties	-	-