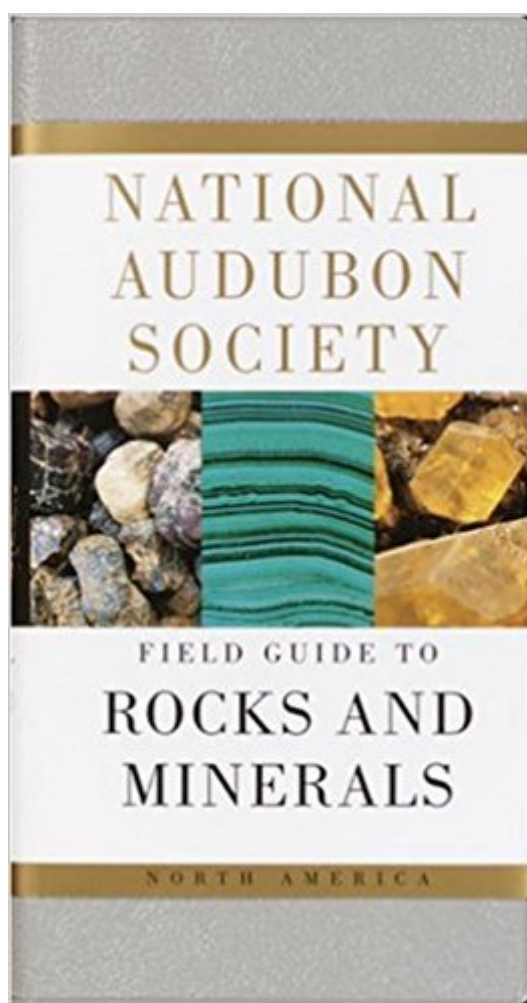


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National Audubon Society Field Guide To Rocks And Minerals: North America (National Audubon Society Field Guides (Paperback))



Synopsis

Perfect for mountain climbers and hikers, this valuable reference covers more rocks and minerals in North America than any other available guide. Featuring a durable vinyl binding and nearly 800 full-color identification photographs, the National Audubon Society Field Guide to Rocks and Minerals is the perfect companion for any expedition. This portable guide depicts all the important rocks, gems, and minerals -- in many variations of color and crystal form -- and the natural environments in which they occur, and includes written descriptions of 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

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

The National Audubon Society is an environmental organization.

I used to get these books every year for my birthday from my parents. I looked through them countless times. I love the insects and arachnids one the best, since I love bugs! Because of the fond memories and that we have a collection of them already, I bought this for my husband for his birthday. He loves rocks and minerals and LOVED looking through this! I always catch him looking through it, and he really enjoys it. I am really happy with this purchase. Good price, GREAT pictures, and lots of information. These Audubon books always feel like they are made well also. The cover, the pages, the pictures, everything is great quality.

First off, the vinyl cover makes this book a superior field guide because it can actually survive the field environment, unlike many others. The next great feature of this guide is the picture section in the middle of the book. It breaks the minerals down into color groups (green, red, metallic, etc) and then shows high quality photos of the different minerals. The quality of the photos is incredible, the only downside is that there is nothing in the photograph for scale. You cannot tell if the mineral you are looking at is 4 mm across or 4 inches. The third and perhaps most valuable feature is the identification chart. Like the photographs, this is broken down by color first. Within each color, the minerals are listed in order of increasing hardness. Then a list of identifying characteristics is listed for each mineral. For example, you have a green mineral of about 4-4.5 in hardness, the book lists fluorite as having perfect octahedral cleavage, smithsonite as having rhombohedral cleavage and reacting to dilute acid, and austerite is bladed or acicular. Pick which description matches your sample and you have identified your mineral. On both the photo section and the identification chart, each mineral also has the page number where you can read a further description of your mineral. The major flaw in the descriptions is the lack of optical data, but this is only a short coming if you will be looking at samples in thin section on a regular basis.

My parents had several of these guides on different subjects when I was a kid so I was already familiar with them. I had to pick one up for a budding rock hunting hobby, and as always they don't disappoint. Good, detailed information, and a section of each book is dedicated to high quality color photos to supplement the drawings.

My daughter is a junior high science teacher and loves earth sciences. She has been eyeing this book for a while and was thrilled when she opened it on Christmas. Quick shipping.

I have no clue what this book is about, but my mom seems to like it. She usually donates her books once read, but she has kept this one on her shelf. She's in her late 50s and it kind of a hippy. I'm sure there's flowers pressed inside the pages by now.

This is well organized and has been very helpful as a geology student. It was recommended by a professor and I have been told by upperclassmen that it is an extremely helpful tool. If you are looking for a guide as an amateur or hobbyist then this is also helpful as it breaks the info down well and in many ways. I plan to keep this book throughout my career.

All around encompassing book. Has a leather like cover, is small enough to not be a problem to take along, very excellent book.

I'm in love with this book! It's so informative, and has a ton of reference photos.

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