

A Tough Mineral

A mineral's ability to resist scratching is known as **hardness**. Gypsum is a soft mineral that can be scratched by quartz. Therefore, quartz is harder than gypsum.

Read the statements below. Then determine from the information which of the minerals is hardest.

Mineral X is scratched by minerals Y and Z.

However, minerals L and S will not scratch mineral X.

Interestingly, mineral Y can scratch minerals Z and T.

Mineral T can scratch mineral Z.

Mineral _____ is the hardest.

