




MINERALS FOR INLAY

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|--------------------|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Mineral | Azurite | Biotite | Calcite | Chrysocolla | Dolomite | Fluorite | Howlite | Malachite | Turquoise |
| Common Name | same | Black Mica | Alabaster | same | same | same | same | same | same |
| Color | Deep Blue | Black | Light blue, green, red, orange, black | Light blue to green | White, pink, brown | Purple, red, green, blue | White | Green with streaks | Blue, green |
| Color Depth | Excellent | Medium | Poor | Excellent | Medium | Poor | Excellent | Excellent | Excellent |
| Clarity | Poor | Medium | Excellent | Poor | Medium | Excellent | Poor | Poor | Poor |
| Hardness | 3.5 - 4.0 | 2.5 - 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.0 - 4.0 | 3.5 - 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.5 | 3.5 - 4.0 | 5.0 - 6.0 |
| Image |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

To research other suitable minerals try these on-line references or check books on mineral properties.

www.theimage.com/mineral/minerals1.html (an excellent site with mineral names, properties, and photos)

www.greatsouth.net/minmenu.html (my preferred source for buying on-line and an excellent reference)

www.mineral.galleries.com/minerals/hardness.htm (information on hardness and more mineral properties)

Look for minerals in the hardness range of 3 to 6. A fingernail is 2.5 and that's getting a little soft while quartz crystals are 7+ and much too hard. The best range is 3 to 4 as it will finish well with hard woods like maple and cherry yet be durable. There are many options.