

## Nickel and Cobalt Fast Facts

### Nickel is:

- An element with the chemical symbol Ni
- A silvery-white lustrous metal
- Hard and ductile
- Resistant to corrosion and recyclable
- Used in the plating of iron and brass metal
- Alloyed particularly with steel to form stainless steel
- Easy to clean and does not harbor bacteria on its surface
- Used in surgical implements, food production utensils, computer hard disks, electricity generation turbines, coins, mobile phones.

For more information on nickel see [Geoscience Australia](#)



Nickel – image courtesy of Mineral Information Institute

### Cobalt is:

- An element with the chemical symbol Co
- Found naturally only in a chemically combined form
- Is a byproduct of nickel refining
- A hard, lustrous, silver-grey metal
- Known to be used as a colouring agent since 2000BC
- An intense blue 'cobalt blue' when combined with silica
- Used in paints, glasses, enamels, rechargeable batteries, magnets, jet engines.

For more information on cobalt see [Wikipedia](#)



Cobalt – image courtesy of Mineral Information Institute

