

## Phosphate Fast Facts

### Phosphate is:

- The naturally occurring form of the element phosphorus, found in many phosphate minerals.
- Found in sedimentary rocks and formed by marine remains laid down in beds under the ocean and later lifted up into land masses.
- Mined to obtain phosphorus for use in agriculture and industry.
- Upgraded in a process called beneficiation to remove clay and other impurities before being used in fertiliser.
- Used in animal feed supplements, food preservatives, anti-corrosion agents, cosmetics, fungicides, ceramics, water treatment and metallurgy.
- Used for control of rust and prevention of corrosion on metals.



Phosphate – image courtesy of Mineral Information Institute

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

