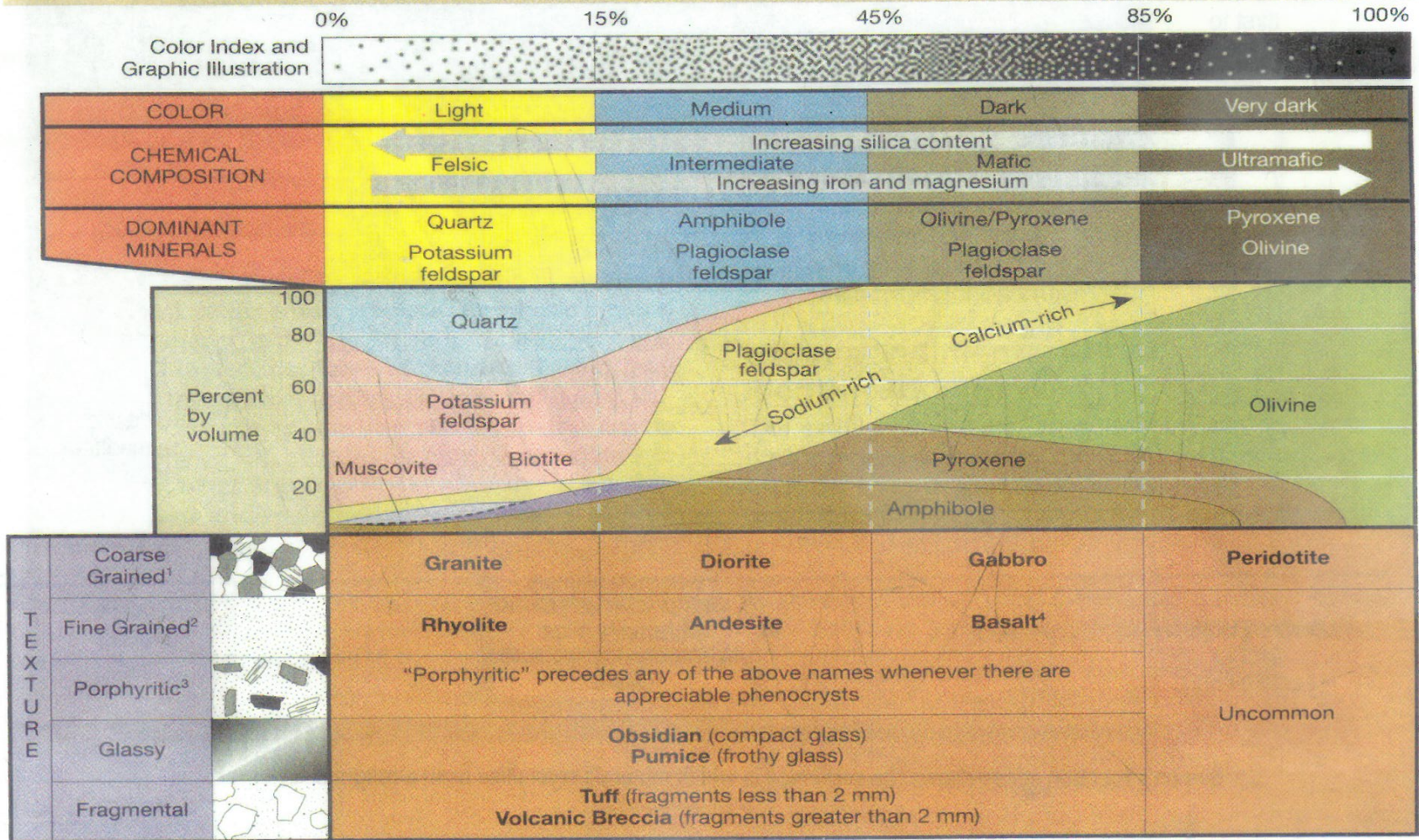


Table 2.1 Igneous rock identification key. Color, with associated mineral composition, is shown along the top axis. Each rock in a column has the color and composition indicated at the top of the column. Texture is shown along the left side of the key. Each rock in a row has the texture indicated for that row. To determine the name of a rock, intersect the appropriate column (color & mineral composition) with the appropriate row (texture) and read the name at the place of intersection.



¹ Also called *phaneritic*. Crystals generally 1-10 mm (1 cm). The term *pegmatite* is added to the rock name when crystals are greater than 1 cm; e.g. *granite-pegmatite*.

² Also called *aphanitic*. Crystals generally less than 1 mm.

³ For example, a granite with phenocrysts is called *porphyritic granite*.

⁴ Basalt with a cinder-like appearance that develops from gas bubbles trapped in cooling lava (a texture referred to as *vesicular*) is called *scoria*.

Ign #10

Scheme for Igneous Rock Identification

Igneous rocks		Grain size					Texture		
Environment of formation	Extrusive (volcanic)	Obsidian (usually appears black)					Non-crystalline	Glassy	Non-vesicular
		Pumice		Vesicular basaltic glass					
		Vesicular rhyolite	Vesicular andesite	Scoria/vesicular basalt			Less than 1 mm	Fine	Vesicular (gas pockets)
	Rhyolite	Andesite	Basalt						
Intrusive (plutonic)	Granite	Diorite	Gabbro	Peridotite	Dunite	1 mm to 10 mm	Coarse	Non-vesicular	
	Pegmatite								10 mm or larger

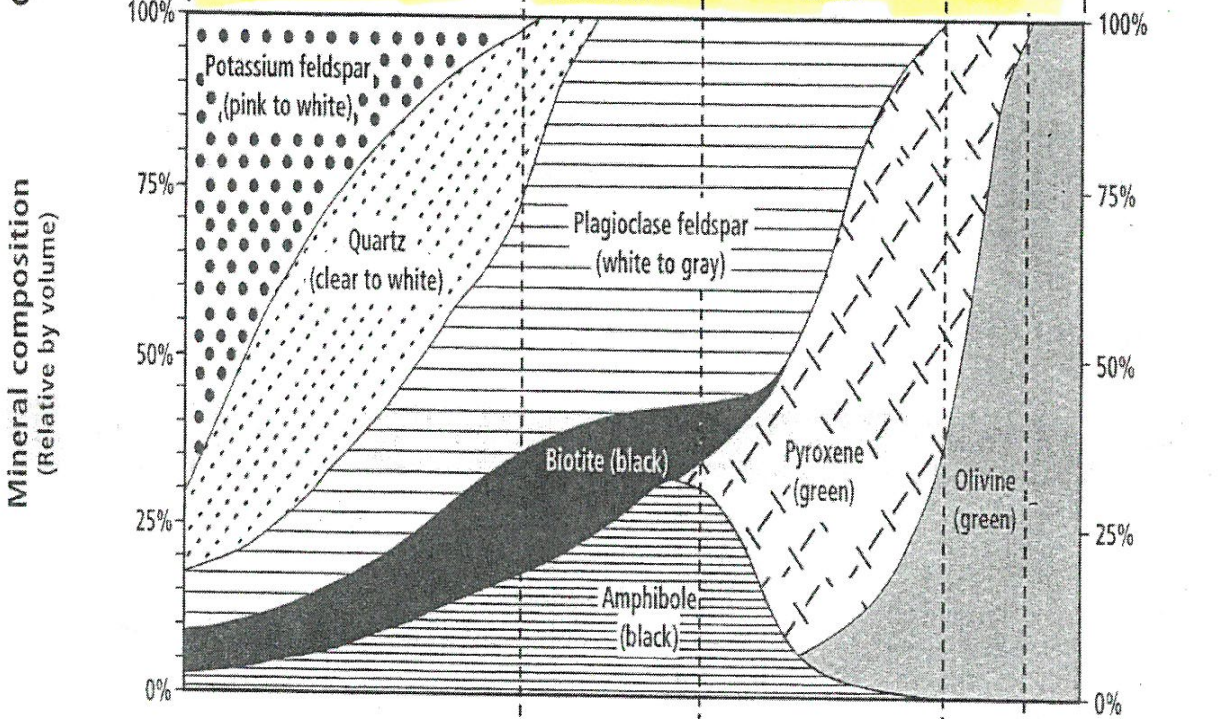
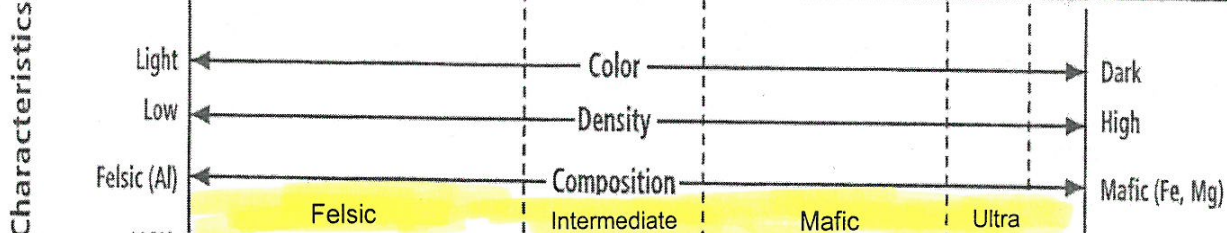


Figure 11-1 Scheme for identifying igneous rocks.