Minerals

Quartz (variety Jasper)

SiO_2

Crystallography:

Hexagonal -*R; 32* (low-quartz). Hexagonal; *622* (high quartz). Cryptocrystalline; massive granular.

Physical Properties:

Cleavage: Generally none; occasional indistinct rhombohedral parting. Fracture conchoidal; brittle.
Hardness: 7.0
Specific Gravity: 2.60
Luster: Dull to sub-vitreous.
Color: Commonly red, also yellow, dark green, grayish-blue. Subtranslucent to opaque.
Streak: White.

Composition/Features:

Most nearly a pure chemical compound of silicon and oxygen with constant physical properties. Characterized by its dull luster, conchoidal fracture, hardness and common red color. Infusible. Insoluble except in hydrofluoric acid.

Occurrence/Use:

An opaque, impure, colored quartz associated with iron ores and containing iron-oxides that give the material its various colors. Sometimes used as a lapidary material.