

How are Mountains Formed?

Read this information sheet. Have you found out anything else new? Look back at last week's work and add new details.



There are several different ways in which mountains can be formed. The Earth's crust is made up of different slabs called tectonic plates. Over millions of years these plates move. When two plates collide they fold over each other, like a car crash collision, and rock is pushed upwards. This type of mountain is called a 'fold mountain' and is the most common form of mountain.



Volcanoes are also mountains. Volcanoes are caused when magma (hot melted rock) erupt through the centre of the volcano and the lava cools in a cone shape. Volcanoes are built up when layers of cooled lava turn to rock which build on top of each other over time.



Another type of mountain are 'dome mountains'. These occur when the pressure from lots of hot magma under the Earth's crust push the earth upwards into a dome without the magma pushing through the surface.

Physical Maps

Search online for examples of physical maps. Can you find Scout Scar on a physical map?

Use online maps to identify what mountain ranges are shown on this physical map.



There are lots of different types of maps. Physical maps are useful for identifying where mountain ranges are.

Physical maps have a key which show areas of higher elevation. Have a look at this map of Europe. The darker areas show areas of high elevation.