

# Minerals in a Cellphone



Many of the essential minerals used to make a cellphone are present in Missouri. This illustration shows a few of the mineral-based materials commonly used in the manufacture of cellphones and other electronic devices.

- Moving clockwise on the illustration, silver and copper are used in the circuitry of the device and are often present in southeast Missouri where the lead ore deposits are located.
- Silica is one of the mineral materials used to make the glass screens and microchips. Silica is produced in the southeastern edge of the state from a formation known as the St. Peter Sandstone.
- Petroleum is a mineral fuel, produced in western Missouri, that is used to make many of the plastic components.
- Iron ore minerals like hematite and magnetite, found in southern Missouri, are used in components like the speaker.
- Lithium, found in certain igneous rocks in Missouri, is used to make the small lithium ion batteries used in most phones.

It is important to note that while all of the mineral resources shown on this illustration are present in Missouri, not all of them are produced from Missouri for making cellphones; however, many are produced for other uses. Missouri has a wealth of mineral resources.

Learn more about Missouri geology:  
[dnr.mo.gov/geology](http://dnr.mo.gov/geology)

