

Minerals : Notes-15

Elements in the Earth's crust. The table below shows the common elements and their percentage of the crust. The eight elements below make up 98% of the crust.

<u>Mineral</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Oxygen	46.5
Silicon	27.8
Aluminum	8.1
Iron	5.1
Calcium	3.6
Sodium	2.5
Potassium	2.5
Magnesium	2.1

The two most common elements, oxygen and silicon, are found in the **silicate minerals**. These minerals make up most of the crust. The silicates often contain aluminum and iron. The iron containing silicates are usually dark. They are also magnetic. These minerals can be found by putting a magnet in sand.