

Word	Meaning
Ashlar	Finely dressed building stone (cut or sawn rectangular) with smooth external face and sides for close fitting
Bath Stone	Middle Jurassic limestone widely used in church windows and quoins
Bridport & Yeovil Sands	Geological formation extending from Dorset coast to Yeovil. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Bartonian	Geological time period. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Beer Stone	Local limestone once quarried in SE Devon. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Bembridge Limestone	Local limestone once quarried on Isle of Wight. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Bembridge Stone	Local limestone once quarried on Isle of Wight. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Binstead Stone	Local limestone once quarried on Isle of Wight. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Bioclast	Broken fossil shells, components of many limestones
Bivalve	Mollusc with two halves to its shell: clams, scallops, oysters, etc.
Blue Lias	Basal Jurassic Limestone, thin beds. Quarried in SW Dorset & Somerset. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Burr	Local limestone quarried on Isle of Purbeck. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Calcarenite	A limestone composed of sand-sized grains of calcium carbonate, usually shell debris
Calcite	Calcium carbonate, defining component of all limestones
Carboniferous	Geological time period. Rocks of this age not exposed in Dorset. Imported limestones used.
Chalk	Soft very fine-grained limestone. Geological formation widespread in S & SE England
Chert	Very hard rock composed of silica replacing sandstone or limestone in patches
Cenomanian	Geological time period. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Chilmark	Area west of Salisbury where Portland Limestones quarried
Clavellata	Species name of fossil bivalve. Geological formation name - <i>See Geology chart</i>
Concretions	Hard, dense, ovoid or spherical rock within a softer sedimentary rock layer
Cornbrash	Middle Jurassic shelly oolitic limestone used as building stone. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Corallian	Upper Jurassic shelly limestone used as building stone. Geological Group - <i>See Geology chart</i>
Cretaceous	Geological time period. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Crinoid	Fossil marine animal related to starfish, also known as "Sea Lilies"
Current bedded	Sedimentary layers which were deposited inclined rather than horizontal; cross-bedding.
Cypris	A genus of ostracod (qv)
Dolomite	A mineral or rock largely composed of Calcium Magnesium Carbonate
Dressings	Building stones cut to a smooth face for windows, quoins, string courses.
Echinoid	A Sea Urchin - a type of marine animal living on or within the sea bed
Eocene	Geological time period. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Featherbed	Very shelly local limestone once quarried on Isle of Wight. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Featherstone	Very shelly local limestone once quarried on Isle of Wight. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Ferroan	Containing iron minerals usually oxidised to an orange-brown colour; ferruginous
Ferruginous	Containing iron minerals usually oxidised to an orange-brown colour; ferroan
Flint	Very hard rock composed of silica replacing chalk in patches
Forest Marble	Middle Jurassic shelly limestones & sandstones used as building stone. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Freestone	Any rock which can be cut in any direction for building use
Fuller's Earth	Middle Jurassic clay with some limestones used as building stone. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Gastropod	A type of Mollusc, e.g., Snail, which can live on land, in freshwater or in the sea
Glauconite	A green mineral formed from volcanic ash deposited in marine conditions
Ham Hill Stone	Lower Jurassic coarse-grained bioclastic limestone, orange-brown. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Heathstone	A ferruginous sandstone used as a building stone. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Inferior Oolite	Middle Jurassic shelly limestone used as a building stone. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Ironstone	A sedimentary rock with a high iron mineral content; ferruginous. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Junction Bed	Lower Jurassic dense limestone, cream coloured. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Jurassic	Geological time period. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Kellaways	Middle Jurassic rock formation. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Knapped	Flint or chert which have been split and trimmed for use in building
Laminations	Very thin layers within a sedimentary rock
Ledger slabs	Engraved slabs of rock used as gravestones, vertically or horizontally, inside a church
Limestone	A sedimentary rock containing more than 50% calcium carbonate
Lower Lias	A former division of the Jurassic. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Marble	In building use, any rock which can be polished for ornamental use. Not the geological meaning.
Marnhull Stone	Upper Jurassic oolitic limestone used as building stone. - <i>See Geology chart</i>
Micrite	Microcrystalline calcite (qv)
Middle Lias	A former division of the Jurassic. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Myophorella	Genus name of fossil bivalve Myophorella clavellata. Clavellata Formation - <i>See Geology chart</i>
Napped	Flint or chert which have been split and trimmed for use in building
New Vein	Local limestone quarried on Isle of Purbeck. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Non-Dorset	Here, sources of building stone imported for use in Dorset Buildings
Oolitic/Ooidal	Limestones (oolites) rich in spherical grains of calcium carbonate (ooids) formed in warm shallow seas
Osmington Oolite	Upper Jurassic oolitic limestone used as building stone. - <i>See Geology chart</i>
Ostracods	Small crustaceans with shell-like bodies (1-5mm) preserved in some building stones
Oxford Clay	Upper Jurassic rock Formation. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Paleocene	Geological time period. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Photomic.	Photomicrograph - photograph of a thin slice of rock viewed in a microscope
Plagioclase feldspar	Type of mineral common in sedimentary rocks derived by erosion of granites
Poikilitic	A rock texture in which small, randomly orientated, crystals are enclosed within larger crystals
Portland Stone	Upper Jurassic limestone. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Porosity	The percentage of space between the grains of a sedimentary rock
PPL	Plane Polarised Light - Microscopy term
Purbeck	Lower Cretaceous "rock Group". Geographical area in East Dorset. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Purbeck Marble	Lower Cretaceous gastropodal limestone, polished for decorative purposes. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Quarr	Very shelly local limestone once quarried on Isle of Wight. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Quartz	Silica mineral common in sedimentary rocks
Quoin	Architectural term: Corner stones of buildings
Render	Artificial coating applied to buildings
Ripple Marks	Minor undulations seen in sedimentary rocks deposited in shallow seas
Rubble	Dressed building stone (e.g. by hammer, guillotine) generally used between quoins, windows and ashlar courses
Sandstone	Sedimentary rock composed of mineral grains 0.062 to 2mm diameter, often quartz
Sarsen Stone	Hard quartzose non-marine sandstone. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Sedimentary	Rocks formed by the erosion of other rocks; by accumulation of organic matter; by evaporation of seawater
Shale	Sedimentary rock comprising clay which has been compressed by burial such that it splits horizontally
Slate	Metamorphic rock: originally clay, altered by pressure & heat such that it splits at an angle to the original
Sparite	Sparry calcite - calcium carbonate crystals large enough to be visible by the naked eye
Tertiary	Geological time period. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Todber Freestone	Upper Jurassic oolitic limestone used as building stone. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Trigonia	Genus name of a fossil bivalve
Unconformity	The contact where sedimentary rocks overlie older rocks with a time gap and often a different structure
Upper Greensand	Mid-Cretaceous glauconitic marine sandstone widely used for building. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Upper Lias	A former division of the Jurassic. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Veins	Thin mineral sheets, usually calcite, cross-cutting sedimentary rocks. Purbeck rock units - <i>See Geology chart</i>
Weald Clay	Lower Cretaceous rock Formation. <i>See Geology chart</i>
White Lias	Youngest Triassic limestone, pale, dense. <i>See Geology chart</i>
Wight Stone	Very shelly local limestone once quarried on Isle of Wight. <i>See Geology chart</i>
XPL	Cross Polarised Light - Microscopy term
Yellow Ledge Stone Band	Local stone in Kimmeridge Group. <i>See Geology chart</i>