

Pumice is a light, porous igneous rock that forms during **explosive volcanic eruptions**. It is created when **gas-rich magma** is violently ejected from a volcano and rapidly cools. As the magma cools quickly, the gases trapped inside expand and escape, forming **tiny bubbles** throughout the rock. This results in a **frothy texture** full of **air-filled holes**, or **vesicles**, which makes pumice **very lightweight**—in fact, it is one of the only rocks that can **float on water**. Pumice is usually **light grey, white, or pale brown** in color, and its rough surface can be abrasive. Because of its texture, pumice is often used in **exfoliating products, abrasives**, and even in **lightweight concrete**. Its unique properties—such as low density, high porosity, and abrasive surface—are directly linked to its explosive volcanic origin and the rapid cooling process that traps gases inside the rock.

Multiple Choice Questions (10)

1. What type of rock is pumice?

- A. Sedimentary
- B. Metamorphic
- C. Igneous
- D. Fossilized

✓ Answer:

2. How is pumice formed?

- A. From slow cooling of magma underground
- B. From compacted plant material
- C. From rapid cooling of gas-rich lava during an explosion
- D. From layers of sand cemented together

✓ Answer:

3. What makes pumice able to float on water?

- A. Its iron content
- B. Its smooth surface
- C. Its gas-filled pores
- D. Its high temperature

✓ Answer:

4. What are the holes in pumice called?

- A. Craters
- B. Vesicles
- C. Cells
- D. Bubbles

✓ Answer:

5. What texture does pumice have?

- A. Glassy and smooth
- B. Rough and bubbly
- C. Layered and sandy
- D. Waxy and soft

 **Answer:**

6. Why is pumice used in exfoliating products?

- A. It is magnetic
- B. It smells nice
- C. It is abrasive
- D. It is soft and smooth

 **Answer:**

7. What color is pumice usually?

- A. Bright red
- B. Dark green
- C. Light grey or white
- D. Blue and black

 **Answer:**

8. What is the main cause of the holes in pumice?

- A. Water erosion
- B. Burrowing animals
- C. Escaping gases
- D. Wind blowing over lava

 **Answer:**

9. Which of the following is NOT a use for pumice?

- A. Concrete
- B. Exfoliating scrubs
- C. Cooking oil
- D. Abrasive tools

 **Answer:**

10. What property of pumice is directly linked to its volcanic origin?

- A. Its colour
- B. Its hardness
- C. Its vesicular texture
- D. Its smell

 **Answer:**