

physical weathering *(phys-i-cal-wea-ther-ing)*

Definition

n. The process of breaking down rocks and minerals into smaller pieces by physical forces, such as temperature changes, water, ice, or wind, without changing their chemical composition.

Example Sentence

Physical weathering caused the rock to crack and crumble over time.

More Example Sentences

The expansion of ice in the cracks of rocks is a common form of **physical weathering**.

Synonyms

mechanical weathering; disintegration;
fragmentation

Antonyms

chemical weathering; erosion; dissolution

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