Vermiculite

VERMICULITE is the name given to a group of hydrated laminar minerals which are aluminium-iron-magnesium-silicates, resembling mica in appearance.

CRUDE VERMICULITE consists of thin, flat flakes containing microscopic layers of water.

EXFOLIATION On being subjected suddenly to high temperatures (700℃ to 1000℃) vermiculite flakes will expand to many times their original size due to the microscopic layers of water turning to steam and forcing the laminar layers apart.

EXFOLIATED VERMICULITE consists of accordion-like granules containing microscopic air layers, to which vermiculite owes its light weight and excellent insulation properties.



	Nominal Particle Size	Loose Bulk Density
Large Grade (Micafil)	3 – 15 mm	70 Kg/m ³
Medium Grade	2 – 8 mm	85 Kg/m ³
Fine Grade	0.5 – 3 mm	100 Kg/m ³
Superfine Grade	0.5 – 1.7 mm	105 Kg/m ³
Micron Grade	0.1 – 1.0 mm	120 Kg/m ³

Typical Properties		
Sintering Temp.	1260℃	
Melting Point	1330℃	
Specific Gravity	2.5	
Thermal Conductivity (k-value)	0.063 W/mK	
Specific Heat	1.8 kJ/kg.K	
Cation Exchange	60 Milli-equiv / 100g	
Sintering Temperature	1260℃	

Typical Chemical Analysis		
% SiO ₂	46.0	
%TiO ₂	1.0	
%Al ₂ O ₃	9.8	
%MgO	27.5	
%CaO	2.5	
%K₂O	2.8	
% Fe ₂ O ₃	9.0	



Dupré Minerals Ltd. Spencroft Road, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, England. ST5 9JE **Telephone:** +44 (0) 1782 383100 **Fax:** +44 (0) 1782 383101 **E-mail:** info@dupreminerals.com

VERMICULITE (also known as Micafil) is exfoliated at Dupré Minerals and is supplied to the demanding specifications required in today's marketplace. Numerous industries are supplied with Vermiculite for a multitude of different applications, Dupré Minerals recognises this and specialises in unique development projects with customers. We are also responsive to the grading and different packaging requirements of all these industries.



PACKAGING

Vermiculite is widely used as a packaging medium. Not only is it lightweight, clean and easily poured around irregular shaped objects, it also acts as a baffle against shocks caused by impact and improper handling. Being highly absorbent, it safely retains leaks from packed materials such as hazardous liquids. As an inorganic mineral, it does not present any fire hazard



INSULATION

Exfoliated Vermiculite is well established as an excellent thermal insulating material capable of withstanding temperatures in excess of 1000°C. The free flowing properties of loose-fill Vermiculite make installation very simple in applications such as loft insulation. The insulating properties of Vermiculite significantly reduce the loss of heat in cold weather and keep the interior cool in hot weather. Vermiculite is clean to handle, non-abrasive, sound absorbent, resistant to decay, odorless and non-irritant.



HORTICULTURE

Medium Grade Vermiculite will dramatically improve drainage when added to heavy soils. Fine Grade combined with peat forms an excellent seed-growing compost. When Vermiculite is used with fertilizers, it makes them more efficient, releasing more nutrients and therefore making them more economical.



FRICTION

Dupré Minerals has been one of the leading suppliers to the friction industry for many years, producing demanding minerals including Vermiculite to the highest specification. Dupré Minerals recognizes the unique demands and specifications required by the world's leading friction companies and is constantly carrying out research and development into new and innovative products.



Information presented above is given in good faith as accurate and reliable but is not to be taken as a guarantee. The figures provided are intended to be a guide to expected average values and should not be interpreted as a specification. Any potential applications referred to are not to be construed as recommendations. It is the responsibility of the user to determine suitability for any specific purpose.

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