

## Chert

### 1. Identification

**Product name:**

Chert

**Other means of identification/Synonyms/Common Names:**

Aggregate, Manufactured Sand, Fine Filler

**Recommended use:**

Chert is used as a construction material.

**Recommended restrictions:**

None Known

**Manufacturer/Contact info:**

Vulcan Materials Company and its subsidiaries and affiliates  
1200 Urban Center Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35242

**General Phone Number:**

1.866.401.5424

**Emergency Phone Number:**

1.866.401.5424 (3E Company, 24hours/day, 7 Days/week)

**Website:**

www.vulcanmaterials.com

### 2. Hazard(s) Identification

**Physical hazards:**

Not Classified

**Health hazards:**

Carcinogenicity-Category 1A  
Specific target organ toxicity, repeated exposure- Category 2



**Signal word:**

# Danger

**Hazard statement:**

May Cause Cancer (Inhalation).  
Causes damage to organs (lungs, respiratory system) through prolonged or repeated exposure (inhalation)

**Precautionary statement:**

**Prevention**

- Obtain special instructions before use.
- Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.
- Use personal protective equipment as required. Wear protective gloves, protective clothing, eye protection, and face protection.
- Wash hands thoroughly after handling.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.

**Response**

- If exposed or concerned get medical advice/attention.

**Disposal**

- Dispose of contents/container in accordance with all local, regional, national, and international regulations.

**Supplemental information:**

Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS) may cause cancer. Chert is a naturally occurring mineral complex that contains varying quantities of quartz (crystalline silica). Chert may be subjected to various natural or mechanical forces that produce small particles (dust) which may contain respirable crystalline silica (particles less than 10 micrometers in aerodynamic diameter). Repeated inhalation of respirable crystalline silica (quartz) may cause lung cancer according to IARC, NTP;

ACGIH states that it is a suspected cause of cancer. Other forms of RCS (e.g., tridymite and cristobalite) may also be present or formed under certain industrial processes.

### 3. Composition/information on ingredients

Chemical name	CAS number	%
Chert	None	100
Quartz (crystalline silica)	14808-60-7	>1

### 4. First-aid measures

**Inhalation:**

Remove to fresh air. Dust in throat and nasal passages should clear spontaneously. Contact a physician if irritation persists or if breathing is difficult.

**Eyes:**

Immediately flush eye(s) with plenty of clean water for at least 15 minutes, while holding the eyelid(s) open. Occasionally lift the eyelid(s) to ensure thorough rinsing. Beyond flushing, do not attempt to remove material from eye(s). Contact a physician if irritation persists or later develops.

**Skin:**

Wash affected areas thoroughly with mild soap and fresh water. Contact a physician if irritation persists.

**Ingestion:**

If person is conscious do not induce vomiting. Give large quantity of water and get medical attention. Never attempt to make an unconscious person drink.

**Most important symptoms/effects, acute and delayed:**

Dust may irritate the eyes, skin, and respiratory tract. Breathing respirable crystalline silica-containing dust for prolonged periods in the workplace can cause lung damage and a lung disease called silicosis. Symptoms of silicosis may include (but are not limited to) shortness of breath, difficulty breathing with or without exertion; coughing; diminished work capacity; diminished chest expansion; reduction of lung volume; right heart enlargement and/or failure.

**Indication of immediate medical attention and special treatment needed:**

Not all individuals with silicosis will exhibit symptoms of the disease. However, silicosis can be progressive and symptoms can appear even years after exposures have ceased. Persons with silicosis have an increased risk of pulmonary tuberculosis infection.

**For emergencies contact 3E Company at 1.866.401.5424 (24 hours/day, 7 days/week).**

### 5. Fire-fighting measures

**Suitable extinguishing media:**

This product is not flammable. Use fire-extinguishing media appropriate for surrounding materials.

**Unsuitable extinguishing media:**

None known.

**Specific hazards arising from the chemical:**

Contact with powerful oxidizing agents may cause fire and/or explosions (see section 10 of SDS).

**Special protective equipment and precautions for firefighters:**

Use protective equipment appropriate for surrounding materials.

**Fire-fighting equipment/instructions:**

No unusual fire or explosion hazards noted. Not a combustible dust.

**Specific methods:**

The presence of this material in a fire does not hinder the use of any standard extinguishing medium. Use extinguishing medium for surrounding fire.

### 6. Accidental release measures

**Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures:**

Persons involved in cleanup processes should first observe precautions (as appropriate) identified in Section 8 of this SDS. **For emergencies, contact 3E Company at 1-866-401-5424 (24 hours/day, 7 days/week).**

**Environmental precautions:**

Prevent from entering into sewers or drainage systems where it can harden and clog flow.

**Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up:**

Spilled material, where dust is generated, may overexpose cleanup personnel to respirable crystalline silica-containing dust. Do not dry sweep or use compressed air for clean-up. Wetting of spilled material and/or use of respiratory protective equipment may be necessary.

**7. Handling and storage****Precautions for safe handling:**

Respirable crystalline silica-containing dust may be generated during processing, handling, and storage. Use personal protection and controls identified in Section 8 of this SDS as appropriate.

**Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities:**

Do not store near food, beverages, or smoking materials.

**8. Exposure controls/personal protection****Legend:**

NE = Not Established; PEL = Permissible Exposure Limit; TLV = Threshold Limit Value; REL = Recommended Exposure Limit; OSHA = Occupational Safety and Health Administration; MSHA = Mine Safety and Health Administration; NIOSH = National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; ACGIH = American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists

Component	OSHA/MSHA PEL	ACGIH TLV	NIOSH REL
Particulates not otherwise classified	15 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (total dust) 5 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (respirable fraction)	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (total dust) 3 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (respirable fraction)	NE
Respirable dust containing silica	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ÷ (% silica + 2)	Use Respirable Silica TLV	Use Respirable Silica REL
Total dust containing silica	MSHA: 30 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ÷ (% silica + 3)	NE	NE
Respirable Crystalline Silica (quartz)	OSHA: 0.05 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (PEL) OSHA: 0.025 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (Action Level) MSHA: Use Respirable Dust containing Silica PEL (above)	0.025 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0.05 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Respirable Tridymite and Cristobalite (other forms of crystalline silica)	OSHA: Use respirable crystalline silica PEL MSHA: 1/2 of respirable dust containing silica PEL	0.025 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0.05 mg/m <sup>3</sup>

**Exposure Guidelines:**

Total dust containing silica, respirable silica-containing dust and respirable crystalline silica (quartz) levels should be monitored regularly to determine worker exposure levels. Exposure levels in excess of allowable exposure limits should be reduced by all feasible engineering controls, including (but not limited to) wet suppression, ventilation, process enclosure, and enclosed employee workstations.

**Engineering Controls:**

Activities that generate dust require the use of general ventilation, local exhaust and/or wet suppression methods to maintain exposures below allowable exposure limits.

**Eye Protection:**

Safety glasses with side shields should be worn as minimum protection. Dust goggles should be worn when excessively (visible) dusty conditions are present or are anticipated.

**Skin Protection (Protective Gloves/Clothing):**

Use gloves to provide hand protection from abrasion. In dusty conditions, use long sleeve shirts. Wash work clothes after each use.

**Respiratory Protection:**

All respirators must be NIOSH-approved for the exposure levels present. (See NIOSH Respirator Selection Guide). The need for respiratory protection should be evaluated by a qualified safety and health professional. Activities that generate dust require the use of an appropriate dust respirator where dust levels exceed or are likely to exceed allowable exposure limits. For respirable silica-containing dust levels that exceed or are likely to exceed an 8-hour time-

weighted average (TWA) of 0.25 mg/m<sup>3</sup>, a high efficiency particulate filter respirator must be worn at a minimum; however, if respirable silica-containing dust levels exceed or are likely to exceed an 8-hour TWA of 1.25 mg/m<sup>3</sup> an air-purifying, full-face respirator or equivalent is required. Respirator use must comply with applicable MSHA (42 CFR 84) or OSHA (29 CFR 1910.134) standards, which include provisions for a user training program, respirator inspection, repair and cleaning, respirator fit testing, medical surveillance and other requirements.

### 9. Physical and chemical properties

**Appearance:**

Brownish orange with lighter (tannish) color clay. Ranging in size from powder to larger rocks. No odor.

<b>Odor:</b> No odor.	<b>PH:</b> 9.0	<b>Decomposition temperature:</b> Not applicable
<b>Melting point/freezing point:</b> Not applicable	<b>Initial boiling point and boiling range:</b> Not applicable	<b>Flash point:</b> Non-combustible
<b>Evaporation rate:</b> Not applicable	<b>Flammability:</b> Not applicable	<b>Upper/lower flammability or explosive limits:</b> Not applicable
<b>Vapor pressure:</b> Not applicable	<b>Relative density:</b> Not applicable	<b>Solubility:</b> 0
<b>Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water.</b> Not applicable	<b>Autoignition temperature:</b> Not applicable	<b>Specific Gravity (H2O = 1):</b> 2.28

### 10. Stability and reactivity

**Reactivity:**

Not reactive under normal use.

**Chemical stability:**

Stable under normal temperatures and pressures.

**Possibility of hazardous reactions:**

None under normal use.

**Conditions to avoid (e.g., static discharge, shock or vibration):**

Contact with incompatible materials should be avoided (see below). See Sections 5 and 7 for additional information.

**Incompatible materials:**

Silica ignites on contact with fluorine and is incompatible with acids, aluminum, ammonium salts and magnesium. Silica reacts violently with powerful oxidizing agents such as fluorine, boron trifluoride, chlorine trifluoride, manganese trifluoride, and oxygen difluoride yielding possible fire and/or explosions. Silica dissolves readily in hydrofluoric acid producing a corrosive gas – silicon tetrafluoride.

**Hazardous decomposition products:**

Respirable crystalline silica-containing dust may be generated. When heated, quartz is slowly transformed into tridymite (above 860°C/1580°F) and cristobalite (above 1470°C/2678°F). Both tridymite and cristobalite are other forms of crystalline silica.

### 11. Toxicological information

**Primary Routes of Exposure:**

Inhalation and contact with the eyes and skin.

**Symptoms related to the physical, chemical, toxicological characteristics**

**Inhalation:**

Dusts may irritate the nose, throat and respiratory tract by mechanical abrasion. Coughing sneezing and shortness of breath may occur.

Symptoms of silicosis may include (but are not limited to) shortness of breath, difficulty breathing with or without exertion; coughing; diminished work capacity; diminished chest expansion; reduction of lung volume; right heart enlargement and/or failure. Persons with silicosis have an increased risk of pulmonary tuberculosis infection.

**Eye Contact:**

Dust particles can scratch the eye causing tearing, redness, a stinging or burning feeling, or swelling of the eyes with blurred vision.

**Skin Contact:**

Dust particles can scratch and irritate the skin with redness, an itching or burning feeling, swelling of the skin, and/or

rash.

**Ingestion:**

Expected to be practically non-toxic. Ingestion of large amounts may cause gastrointestinal irritation including nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and blockage.

**Medical Conditions Aggravated by Exposure:**

Irritated or broken skin increases chance of contact dermatitis. Pre-existing medical conditions that may be aggravated by exposure include disorders of the eye, skin and lung (including asthma and other breathing disorders). Smoking tobacco will impair the ability of the lungs to clear themselves of dust.

**Delayed and immediate effects and also chronic effects from short- and long-term exposure:**

Prolonged overexposure to respirable dusts in excess of allowable exposure limits can cause inflammation of the lungs leading to possible fibrotic changes, a medical condition known as pneumoconiosis.

Prolonged and repeated overexposure to high levels of respirable crystalline silica-containing dust may cause a chronic form of silicosis, an incurable lung disease that may result in permanent lung damage or death. Chronic silicosis generally occurs after 10 years or more of overexposure; a more accelerated type of silicosis may occur between 5 and 10 years of higher levels of prolonged and repeated overexposure. In early stages of silicosis, not all individuals will exhibit symptoms (signs) of the disease. However, silicosis can be progressive, and symptoms can appear at any time, even years after exposure has ceased.

Repeated overexposures to very high levels of respirable crystalline silica for periods as short as six months may cause acute silicosis. Acute silicosis is a rapidly progressive, incurable lung disease that is typically fatal. Symptoms include (but are not limited to): shortness of breath, cough, fever, weight loss, and chest pain.

Respirable dust containing newly broken crystalline silica particles has been shown to be more hazardous to animals in laboratory tests than respirable dust containing older crystalline silica particles of similar size. Respirable crystalline silica particles which had aged for sixty days or more showed less lung injury in animals than equal exposures to respirable dust containing newly broken particles of respirable crystalline silica.

There are reports in the literature suggesting that excessive respirable crystalline silica exposure may be associated with autoimmune disorders and other adverse health effects involving the kidney. In particular, the incidence of scleroderma (thickening of the skin caused by swelling and thickening of fibrous tissue) appears to be higher in silicotic individuals. To date, the evidence does not conclusively determine a causal relationship between silica exposure and these adverse health effects.

**Carcinogenicity:**

Epidemiology studies on the association between respirable crystalline silica exposure and lung cancer have had both positive and negative results. There is some speculation that the source, type, and level of exposure of respirable crystalline silica may play a role. Studies of persons with silicosis indicate an increased risk of developing lung cancer, a risk that increases with the level and duration of exposure. It is not clear whether lung cancer develops in non-silicotic patients. Several studies of silicotics do not account for lung cancer confounders, especially smoking, which have been shown to increase the risk of developing lung disorders, including emphysema and lung cancer.

In October 1996, an IARC Working Group designated respirable crystalline silica as carcinogenic (Group 1). In 2012, an IARC Working Group re-affirmed that inhalation of crystalline silica was a known human carcinogen. The NTP's Report on Carcinogens, 9th edition, lists respirable crystalline silica as a "known human carcinogen." In the year 2000, the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) listed respirable crystalline silica (quartz) as a suspected human carcinogen (A-2). These classifications are based on sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity in certain experimental animals and on selected epidemiological studies of workers exposed to respirable crystalline silica.

**Additional information on toxicological-effects:**

**Acute toxicity:** Not classified.

**Skin corrosion/irritation:** Not classified.

**Serious eye damage/eye irritation:** Not classified.

**Respiratory sensitization:** Not classified.

**Skin sensitization:** Not classified.

**Germ cell Mutagenicity:** Not classified

**Carcinogenicity:** May cause cancer (Inhalation).

**Reproductive toxicity:** Not classified.

**Specific target organ toxicity - single exposure:** Not classified.

**Specific target organ- toxicity – repeated exposure:** Causes damage to organs (lungs, respiratory system) through prolonged or repeated exposure (inhalation)

**Aspiration toxicity:** Not classified (not applicable- solid material).

## 12. Ecological information

**Ecotoxicity (aquatic and terrestrial, where available):**

Not determined

**Persistence and degradability:**

Not determined

**Bioaccumulative potential.**

Not determined

**Mobility in soil.**

Not determined

**Other adverse effects.**

Not determined

## 13. Disposal considerations

**Safe handling and disposal of waste:**

Place contaminated materials in appropriate containers and dispose of in a manner consistent with applicable federal, state, and local regulations. Prevent from entering drainage, sewer systems, and unintended bodies of water. It is the responsibility of the user to determine, at the time of disposal, whether product meets criteria for hazardous waste. Product uses, transformations, mixture and processes, may render the resulting material hazardous.

## 14. Transport information

**UN Number:**

Not regulated.

**UN Proper shipping name:**

Not regulated.

**Transport Hazard class:**

Not applicable.

**Packing group, if applicable:**

Not applicable.

**Marine pollutant (Yes/No):**

Not applicable.

## 15. Regulatory information

**Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA):**

The components in this product are listed on the TSCA Inventory or are exempt.

**Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA):**

Releases of this material to air, land, or water are not reportable to the National Response Center under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) or to state and local emergency planning committees under the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act.

**Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), Title III:**

**Section 302 extremely hazardous substances:** None

**Section 311/312 hazard categories:** Delayed Health

**Section 313 reportable ingredients at or above de minimus concentrations:** None

**California Proposition 65:**

This product contains a chemical (crystalline silica) known to the State of California to cause cancer.

**State Regulatory Lists:**

Each state may promulgate standards more stringent than the federal government. This section cannot encompass an inclusive list or all state regulations. Therefore, the user should review the components listed in Section 2 and consult state or local authorities for specific regulations that apply.

**16. Other information**

Disclaimer

**NO WARRANTY IS MADE, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR OTHERWISE.**

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