

# Features of Mountains



# Can You Remember What's under Your Feet?

The Earth's crust isn't one solid layer.

It is broken up into huge areas called tectonic plates that float on top of the mantle.

This map shows where the tectonic plates are.



# How Mountains are Made

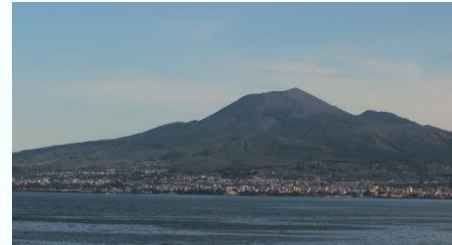
There are 5 main types of mountains:



fold mountains



fault-block mountains



volcanic mountains



dome mountains



plateau mountains

Each one is formed differently.

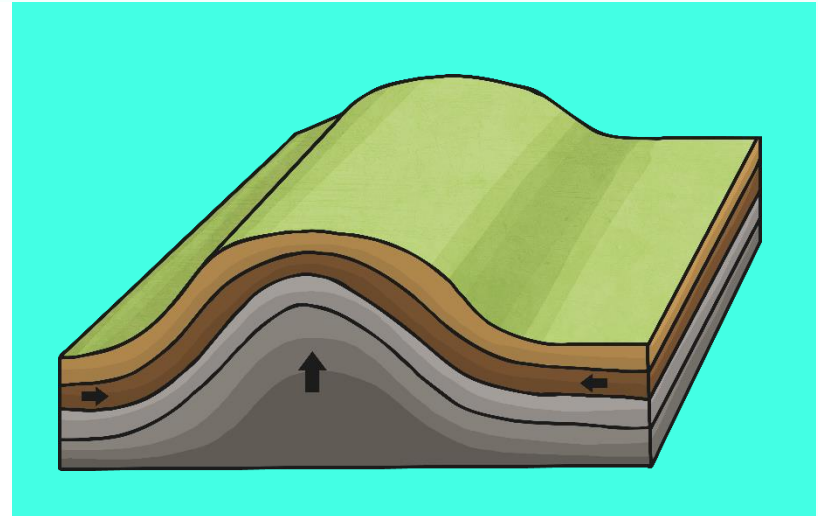


# Fold Mountains

Fold mountains occur when tectonic plates collide.

The edges of the plates crumple as they are pushed together.

The rock of the Earth's surface is pushed up to create mountains.

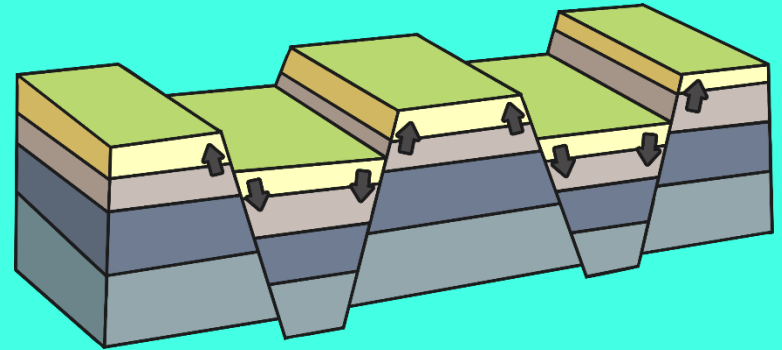


**The Alps are fold mountains.**

# Fault-block Mountains

When cracks in the Earth's surface open up, large chunks of rock can be pushed up while others are pushed down.

This creates mountains with a long slope on one side, and a sharp drop on the other.

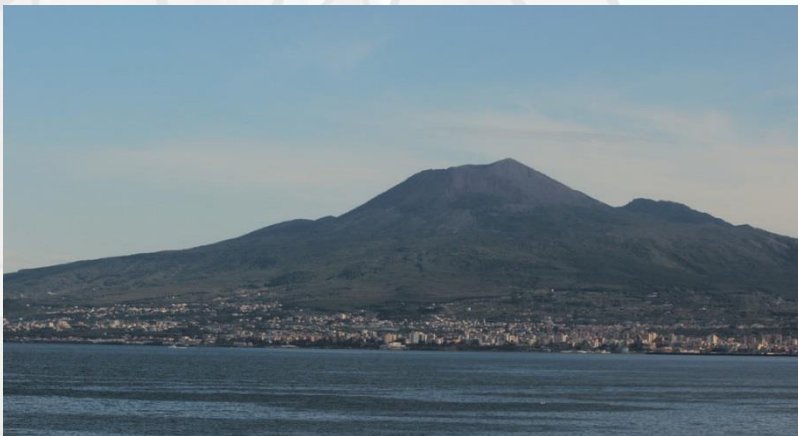
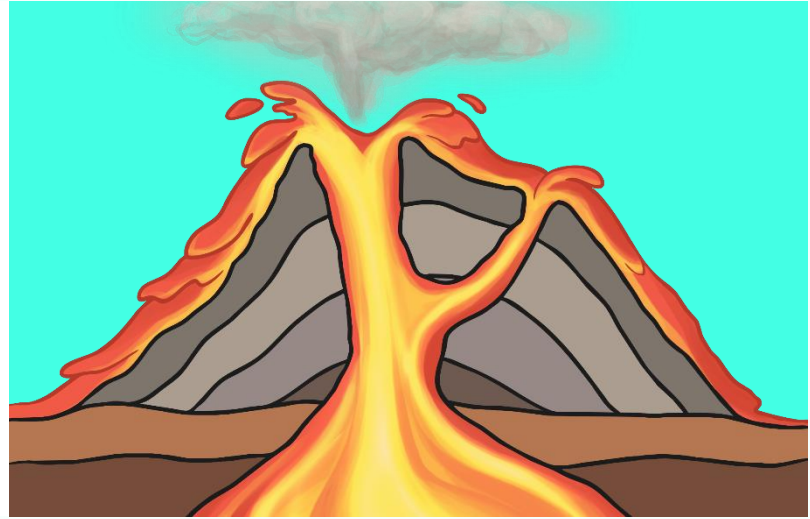


**The Sierra Nevada mountains in California, USA are fault-block mountains.**

# Volcanic Mountains

Volcanic mountains are formed around volcanoes.

Volcanic mountains are made of layers of ash and cooled lava.



**Mount Vesuvius, Italy is a volcanic mountain.**



# Dome Mountains

Dome mountains are smooth and round-looking.

They are formed when magma is forced up between the crust and the mantle, but doesn't ever flow out.

The magma makes the land bubble up like a balloon.



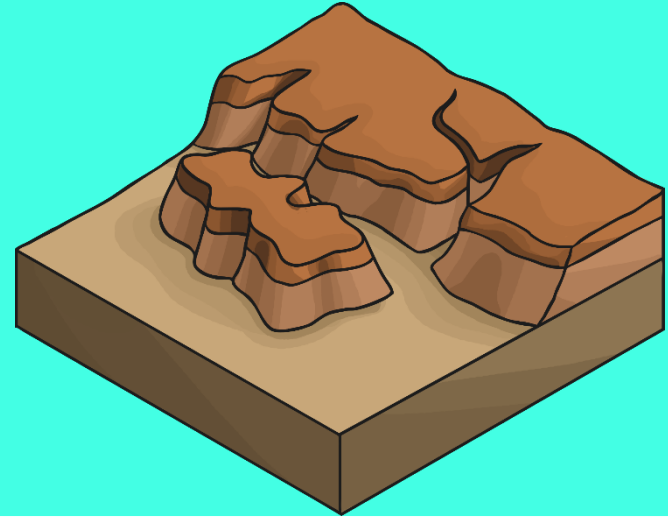
**Devils Tower, USA  
is a dome mountain.**

# Plateau Mountains

Plateau mountains are different from the other mountain types.

They haven't formed because of rock or magma being pushed up.

They form because of materials being taken away through erosion, which has left deep valleys or gorges next to high cliffs.



**The Allegheny Mountains, USA, are an example of this type of mountain.**



# Key Features



## summit

The top of a mountain.

## snow line

Above here snow and ice cover the mountain all year.

## outcrop

A rock formation visible from the surface.

## slope

An area of ground increasing in height.

## plateau

An area of flat, high ground.

## valley

The area of low land between mountains.

## tree line

The highest point forests are found.

## ridge

A long, narrow, high section of land.

## foot

The bottom of the mountain.

## face

The "side" of a mountain.

