

# FELDSPAR, CUSTER

SiO <sub>2</sub>	68.50%
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	17.0
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.15
K <sub>2</sub> O	10.0
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.0
CaO	0.3
MgO	Trace

**Geographical Source:**

Custer, South Dakota

**Geological Source:**

Orthoclase and microcline found in coarse-grained granitic rock (pegmatite).

**Characteristics:**

Custer feldspar is used as a primary flux. Potassium feldspars share the highest thermal expansion and contraction rate for ceramic melter oxides. It can, therefore, contribute to crazing and crackling of glaze surfaces. Potassium feldspar promotes color brilliance but is not as shiny as a soda feldspar. Potassium feldspars have the lowest surface tension of all materials used in ceramics, therefore may flow more freely over a ceramic surface and help reduce crawling. Custer feldspar has a long history in the ceramic world and is known for its consistency.