**Surface Color of Common Metals**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Metal** | **Color of Unfinished, Unbroken Surface** | **Color and Structure of Newly** | **Color of Freshly Filed Surface** |
|  |  | **Fractured Surface** |  |
| White cast iron | Dull gray | Silvery white; crystalline | Silvery white |
|  |  |  |  |
| Gray cast iron | Dull gray | Dark silvery; crystalline | Light silvery gray |
|  |  |  |  |
| Malleable iron | Dull gray | Dark gray; finely crystalline | Light silvery gray |
|  |  |  |  |
| Wrought iron | Light gray | Bright gray | Light silvery gray |
|  |  |  |  |
| Low-carbon and cast steel | Dark gray | Bright gray | Bright silvery gray |
|  |  |  |  |
| High-carbon steel | Dark gray | Light gray | Bright silvery gray |
|  |  |  |  |
| Stainless steel | Dark gray | Medium gray | Bright silvery gray |
|  |  |  |  |
| Copper | Reddish brown to green | Bright red | Bright copper color |
|  |  |  |  |
| Brass and bronze | Reddish yellow, yellow-green, or brown | Red to yellow | Reddish yellow to yellowish white |
|  |  |  |  |
| Aluminum | Light gray | White; finely crystalline | White |
|  |  |  |  |
| Nickel | Dark gray | Off-white | Bright silvery white |
|  |  |  |  |
| Lead | White to gray | Light gray; crystalline | White |
|  |  |  |  |
| Copper-Nickel (70-30) | Gray | Light gray | Bright silvery white |
|  |  |  |  |