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## New Discovery Challenges Perception of Mars' Red Color

### Description

Mars is known for its red color, but new research suggests water played a key role in making the planet red. Scientists previously thought dry oxidation caused Mars's red hue, but now they believe water was involved.

A mineral called ferrihydrite mixed with volcanic rock could be responsible for Mars's rust. This mineral forms quickly with cool water, and evidence suggests it played a role in the planet's reddish appearance.

Previous studies missed this mineral as a potential explanation for Mars's color. By analyzing data from spacecraft and Mars rovers, scientists found that ferrihydrite might be the reason behind the planet's redness.

Ferrihydrite likely formed while Mars still had water on its surface, changing our understanding of the planet's history. It's important to study Mars samples closely to confirm these findings and learn more about the planet's past water presence.

This research is published in Nature Communications.

### CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL2

### Date Created

2025/02/26

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