Raw materials for AI servers

Overview

The publication introduces the main materials that commonly underpin the AI supply chain, including copper, silicon, gold and silver, rare earth elements, tantalum, cobalt, lithium, and gallium. For each, it provides a brief description of their industrial use in AI hardware. How to Read This: Here are key minerals used in each part of the data center, and the percent the U. Whether it's the silicon that forms the basis of microchips, the cobalt that enhances memory and logic devices, or the rare earths that power high-performance magnets and semiconductors, these elements are fundamental to building the intelligent, electrified systems of the future. The intersection. The U. Core data center components—from circuitry to magnets—depend heavily on foreign-sourced materials. The artificial intelligence boom is driving an unprecedented buildout of data centers across the United. In just the past couple of years, we've seen the explosive rise of generative AI tools like ChatGPT and Grok, and companies are investing billions to keep up. We. Extracted from quartzite and silica sand deposits—where it ranks as Earth's second-most abundant element after carbon—silicon undergoes extensive purification to achieve the ultra-high purity levels required for electronics. Manufacturers process this

refined silicon into cylindrical ingots, then. As data centers rapidly double their power consumption, their demand for critical minerals is also soaring, driven by the reliance of nearly every component—from servers to batteries and fans—on materials like copper for wiring and heat exchange, nickel, cobalt and manganese for backup energy.

Raw materials for AI servers

Let us break down the top 8 raw materials critical to this ecosystem, tracing their journey from extraction to deployment in data centers where AI thrives.

From semiconductors and memory to batteries and optical components, we break down how specific elements contribute to each part of the digital stack. A diverse range of critical minerals underpins the ...

Power, and the raw materials behind it. AI resides in the cloud, but it''s grounded in commodities extracted from the earth. The technology takes copper ...

By 2030, AI centers could represent 2 to 3% of global demand for key minerals such as copper and various elements. These same minerals are not only essential for AI but also other ...

Discover critical materials needed for AI chip production—silicon, gallium, germanium, rare earths, and specialized metals driving semiconductor manufacturing.

From semiconductors to cooling systems, these materials form the backbone of digital infrastructure. This chart breaks down the critical minerals used in AI data centers—and how reliant ...

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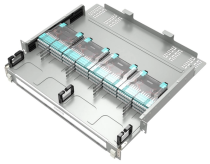
Power, and the raw materials behind it. AI resides in the cloud, but it''s grounded in commodities extracted from the earth. The technology takes copper wiring, natural gas turbines, rare ...

From rare earths in hard disk drives to copper in cabling and gallium in high-speed semiconductors, data centers are becoming one of the most mineral-intensive components of the ...

Demand for data centers is rising, especially to support new AI technologies that are computationally intense. Data centers require large amounts of energy and ...



AI depends heavily on the physical infrastructure that supports it, including servers, chips, data centers, and cooling systems. All of this requires a range of natural resources, beginning with rare earth ...

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