



INTERPRETIVE MAP OF PLATE TECTONICS

- Divergent plate boundary—Where new crust is generated as the plates pull away from each other
- Convergent plate boundary—Where crust is recycled as one plate dives under another (in the direction shown by sawteeth)
- Transform plate boundary—Where crust is neither produced nor consumed as plates slide horizontally past each other
- Selected fossil boundary—Former plate boundary, now inactive; evidence that plate boundaries are not permanent
- Diffuse boundary zone—Broad belt in which deformation occurs over a wide region (from Gordon, 2000); may encompass one or more smaller plates
- Selected hotspots—Larger symbol indicates major hotspot; smaller symbol indicates minor hotspot
- Plate motion—Length of arrow is roughly proportional to the rate of plate motion (longer=faster; see main map for details)
- ± Elevation—Highest (+) and lowest (-) points, in meters, on four largest continents and in two oceans



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