

# 12th International Symposium on Knappable Materials

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**Session Proposal:** Raw material exploitation strategies: mining and surface collecting

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This session examines the ways prehistoric and historic communities of various periods and geographic areas exploited and collected different types of knappable raw material.

The topic is of crucial importance since it will help achieve a deeper understanding of behaviour, cognition abilities and social organization of human groups in different situations and contexts.

The purpose of the session is to invite researchers focussed on the study of raw material availability, procurement strategies, mining and quarrying, methods and techniques employed to extract and manage lithic resources from early prehistory to historic times.

Other topics to be addressed include the definition of the technologies employed for extraction, their development through time, and their relationships with human evolution and social structure.

We encourage contributions related to the state of the arts in the various themes involved as well as presentations of specific cases, such as for instance, studies on variables among which are raw material quality and exploitation strategies, difficulty of terrain and raw material availability, techniques and cost of extraction, rhythms of the increase and decrease of the exploitation of the resources over time.