

# Suggested Colors for Geologic Maps

[This color chart shows suggested colors for different geologic ages, as well as colors for volcanic and igneous rocks. Numbers below each color box are CMYK color codes, as follows: A = 8%, 1 = 13%, 2 = 20%, 3 = 30%, 4 = 40%, 5 = 50%, 6 = 60%, 7 = 70%, X = 100%. Colors on this chart were chosen on the basis of how they look as printed on an offset printing press. As printed on an offset printing press, the colors conform to USGS geologic age color standards. However, if the digital file of this chart is printed on a computer-driven ink-jet plotter, some of the colors will not conform to the USGS geologic age colors. Users should be aware of this limitation and choose colors accordingly. Note that some of the dark combination colors (composed of high percentages of the two CM inks or the three CMY inks) are generally too dark to use for most purposes, because they can obscure topographic base features and geologic map data. On some computer-driven plotters, some of the darkest colors on this chart will print dark gray to black.]

## Quaternary

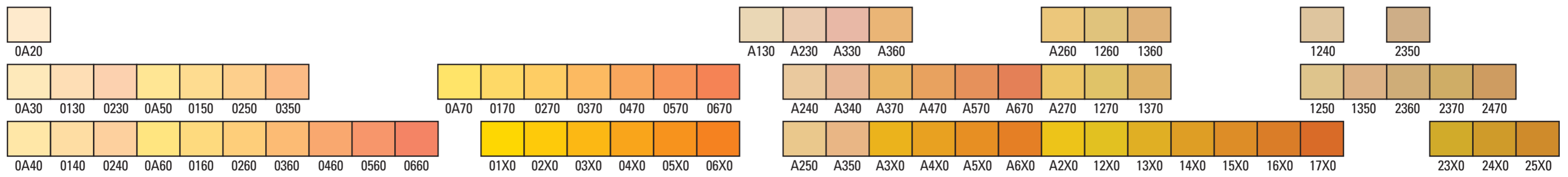
Yellow, no color  
0000 00A0 0010 0020 0030 0040 0050 0060 0070 00X0 0AX0

## Q

## Tertiary

Orange, yellowish-orange, tan, brown

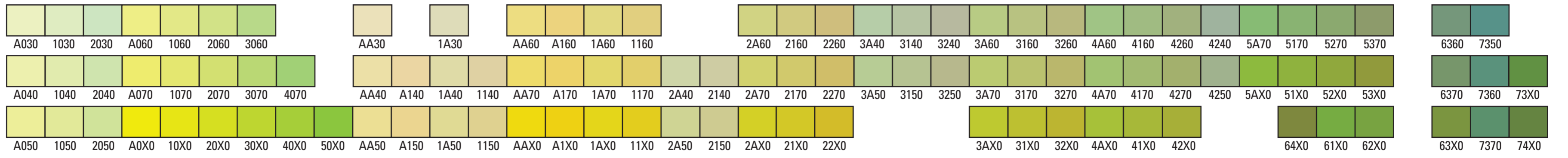
## T



## Cretaceous

Yellow green or olive green

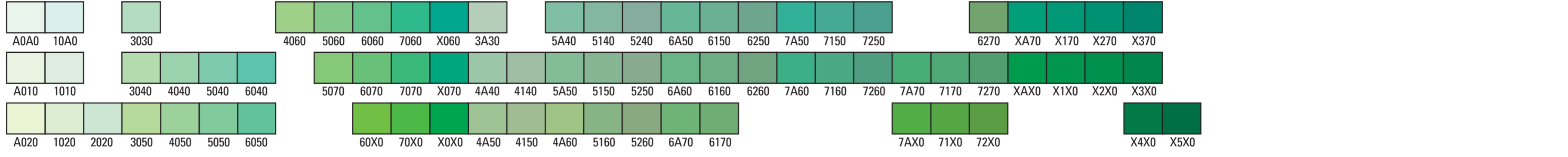
## K



## Jurassic

Green

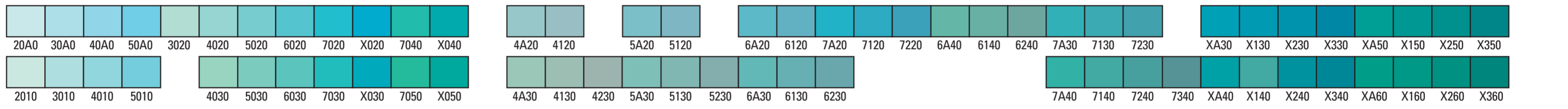
## J



## Triassic

Blue green

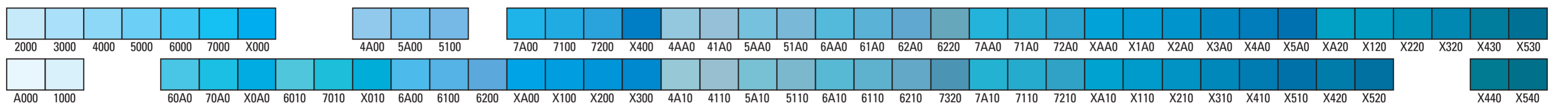
## R



## Permian

Blue

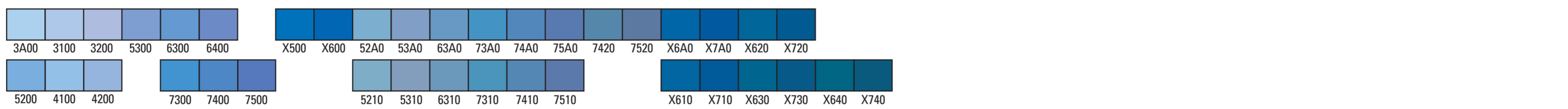
## P



## Pennsylvanian

Blue with red

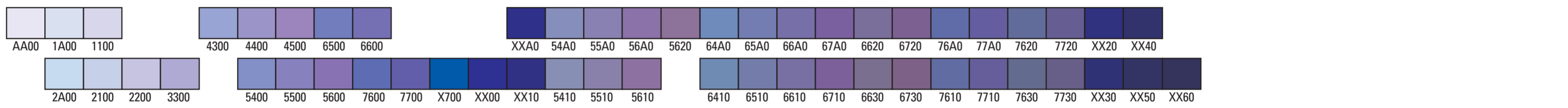
## IP



## Mississippian

Bluish purple

## M



## Devonian

Grayish purple

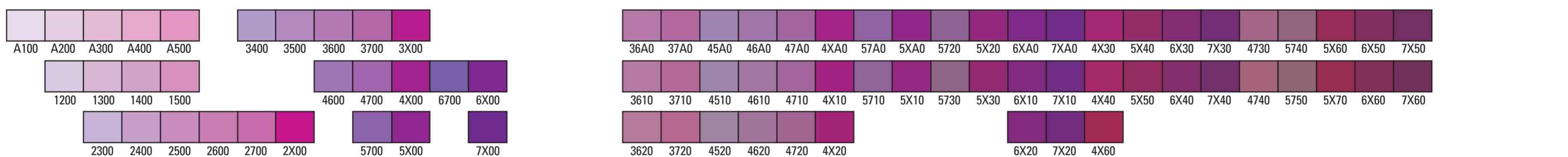
## D



## Silurian

Reddish purple

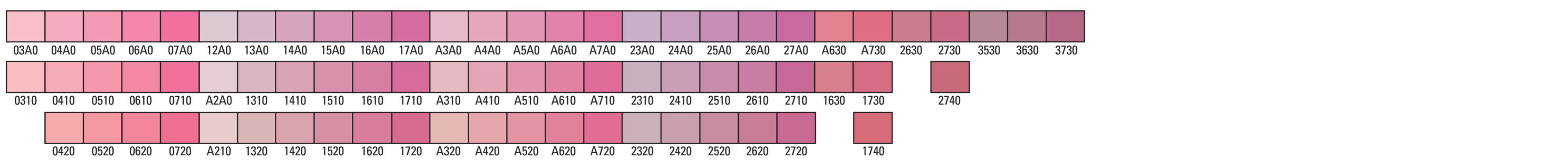
## S



## Ordovician

Subdued red

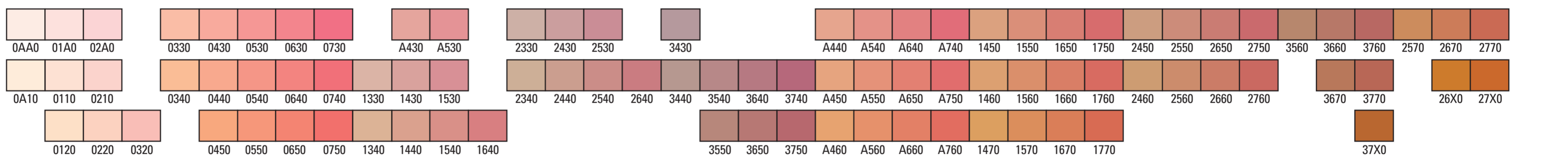
## O



## Cambrian

Reddish brown

## C

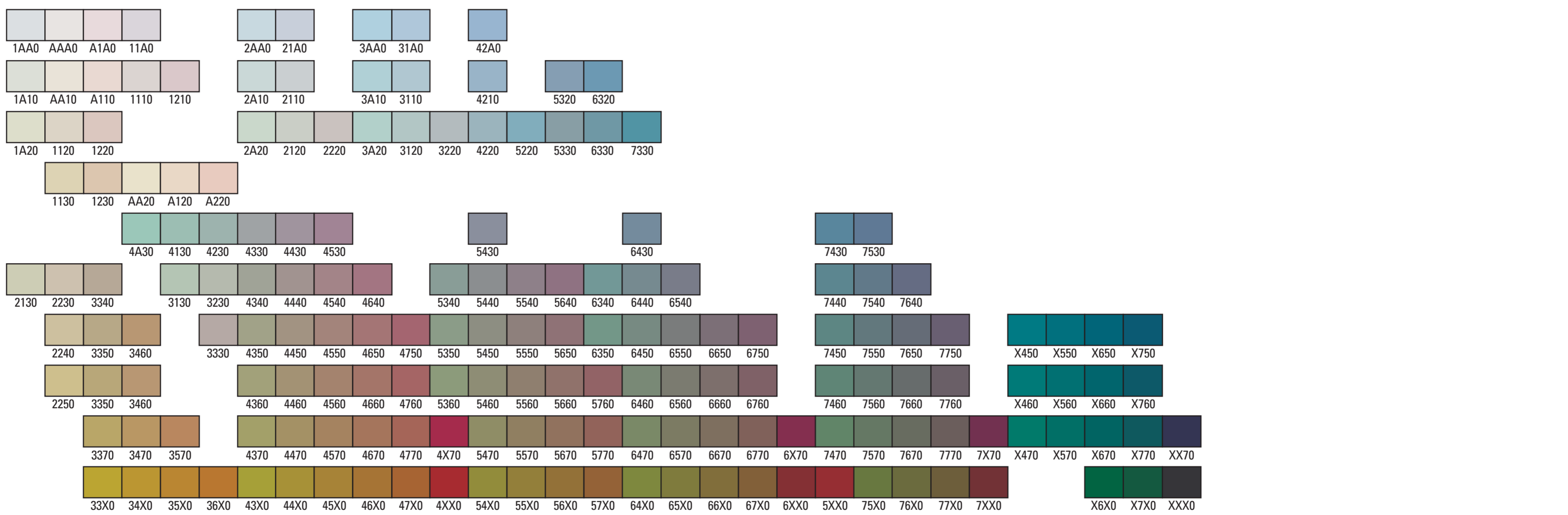


## Precambrian

(Includes Proterozoic and Archean)

Olive brown, olive, gray, olive blue, reddish olive

## pC



## Igneous and volcanic rocks

Red, pink, bright orange

## O

