

Use with Chapter 17
Section 17.2

Isochron Map of Ocean-Floor Crust

* Use Figure 17-11
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1. What does each band of color on the seafloor represent?

2. How did researchers determine the ages of the seafloor crust?

3. What color is used to represent the youngest sections of seafloor? The oldest sections of seafloor?

4. The thin black lines on the map show the locations of ocean ridges. What pattern occurs in the bands of color on either side of ocean ridges?

5. How does the age of the crust change with distance from the ridge? Why?

6. How do the widths of the color bands in the Pacific Ocean compare to the widths of the color bands in the Atlantic Ocean? What can you infer from this comparison about the rate of seafloor spreading?

7. What color is used to represent crust that is 100 million years old? 135 million years old?

8. How old is the ocean crust just off the east coast of the United States?

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