SOFTWARE & TECH

Where Is Rock Smash In Silver

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Unearthing the Secret: Where Is Rock Smash in Pokémon Silver?

For many trainers, the Johto region in Pokémon Silver is a land of mystery and adventure. As you journey from the quiet streets of New Bark Town to the snowy peaks of the Mahogany Town area, you will inevitably encounter large, cracked boulders blocking caves, small ledges, and hidden pathways. These obstacles are not merely decorative; they are puzzles waiting to be solved. The key to unlocking these secrets lies with a single, deceptively simple HM: Rock Smash. If you've been wandering around wondering, "Where is Rock Smash in Silver?" you are not alone. This Hidden Machine is surprisingly easy to miss, yet it is absolutely essential for completionists, item hunters, and anyone looking to fully explore the world of Generation II.

This guide will provide a clear, step-by-step path to obtaining Rock Smash, explain its practical uses in and out of battle, and detail why this particular HM is more valuable than its modest appearance suggests. Read on, and you will never be stumped by a loose rock again.

The Humble Beginnings: What is Rock Smash?

Before we pinpoint the location, it helps to understand exactly what Rock Smash does and why you need it. Introduced in Generation II, Rock Smash is a Fighting-type move. In battle, it has a decent base power of 20 (later 40 in future generations) and a 50% chance of lowering the target's Defense stat. While it is not a powerhouse move for main combat, its true value lies in its field effect.

Outside of battle, Rock Smash allows you to break apart the small, gray, cracked rocks that are often found in caves or on routes. Breaking these rocks can yield one of several outcomes:

- Hidden Items: Items such as Potions, Poké Balls, Revives, and even Rare Candies can be found by smashing rocks.
- Wild Pokémon Encounters: Disturbing a rock might reveal a wild Pokémon. In Pokémon Silver, common encounters include Geodude, Graveler, and Machop. These encounters are a good way to catch a Fighting-type Pokémon early in the game.
- Clearing Pathways: This is the most obvious use. Smashing a rock might open a shortcut, reveal a hidden area, or grant access to a new part of a cave or route.

For many trainers, the question "Where is Rock Smash in Silver?" becomes urgent when they reach areas like the Ruins of Alph or the Dark Cave, where boulders block the way to valuable items or new routes. Without it, you are effectively locked out of a significant portion of the game's exploration.

The Exact Location: Route 35 and the House South of the National Park

Now, for the specific answer you have been waiting for. You do not get Rock Smash from a gym leader, a random Poké Ball on the ground, or by winning a contest. Instead, you must speak to a specific **NPC (Non-Player Character)** who lives in a small house. The house is located on **Route 35**, just south of the entrance to the **National Park**.

Here is a precise, step-by-step guide to finding this house and acquiring the move:

1. Progression Requirement: You must have earned the Zephyr Badge from Falkner in Violet City and the Hive Badge from Bugsy in Azalea Town. While you can technically reach Route 35 earlier, you will need Cut (from the Ilex Forest) to progress, and you should have a few badges under your belt to make the journey easier.
2. Travel to Goldenrod City: Your journey starts in Goldenrod City, the bustling metropolis of Johto. If you have not been there yet, you need to travel through Route 32, Union Cave, Route 33, and Azalea Town, then through the Ilex Forest.
3. Exit Goldenrod City: From Goldenrod, head north to enter Route 35. This route connects Goldenrod City to the National Park.
4. Find the National Park Entrance: As you walk north on Route 35, you will see the large entrance to the National Park. It is a distinct building with floral decorations and a Poké Ball sign.
5. The House Just South: Directly south of the National Park entrance, you will see a small, solitary house set back from the main path. Go inside.
6. Talk to the Man: Inside, you will find a single man. He is not a gym leader or a professor, but he is the keeper of the move. Speak to him, and he will ask if you can help him by smashing a rock outside.
7. Receive the HM: After a brief conversation, he will hand you HM04 - Rock Smash. He gives it to you freely; you do not need to win a battle or solve a puzzle.

That is it. There is no puzzle to solve, no quest to complete. The man simply gives it to you because he knows a trainer will put it to good use. If you have been holding a copy of Pokémon Silver and staring at the cracked rocks, wondering "Where is Rock Smash in Silver?" the answer has been waiting for you in that little house on Route 35 all along.

How to Use Rock Smash: Teaching and Executing the Move

Receiving the HM is only half the battle. You also need to know how to use it. Here are the steps to teach and activate Rock Smash:

Teaching Rock Smash to a Pokémon

Rock Smash is an HM, which means it can be taught to almost any Pokémon that can learn it. However, it is not usable in the field by all Pokémon. You must teach it to a Pokémon that can physically break rocks (typically Fighting-type, Rock-type, or Ground-type Pokémon, but many normal types can also learn it).

- Open your Bag menu and select the HM Pocket.
- Select HM04 - Rock Smash.
- Choose "Teach" from the menu.
- Select a Pokémon from your party that is compatible. You will see a checkmark or a message indicating the Pokémon can learn the move.
- Confirm you want to replace an existing move.

Good early-game Pokémon to teach Rock Smash to:

- Geodude: Available early on (Route 46, Dark Cave). It learns Rock Smash naturally and is a powerhouse for breaking rocks.
- Machop: Available via the Game Corner in Goldenrod City or in the wild on Route 45. It is a pure Fighting type and benefits from STAB (Same Type Attack Bonus).
- Poliwhirl: Found near water, it can learn a variety of HMs including Surf, Strength, Whirlpool, and Rock Smash, making it a great HM slave.

Using Rock Smash in the Field

Once taught, simply stand in front of a cracked gray rock and press the **A button**. Your Pokémon will smash the

rock. If a wild Pokémon appears, you will enter battle. If an item is found, it will be added to your bag. The rock will disappear after being smashed, and it will respawn if you leave the area and come back.

Why Rock Smash Matters: Exploration and Strategy

Now that you know the answer to "Where is Rock Smash in Silver?" it is time to understand its strategic importance. This move is not just for show. It unlocks several key areas and items that are otherwise inaccessible.

Key Areas Unlocked by Rock Smash

- Ruins of Alph: This archaeological site is full of puzzles, Unown Pokémon, and hidden chambers. Smashing rocks within the ruins reveals rare items and provides shortcuts.
- Dark Cave: This vast, dark cave connecting Route 45 and Route 31 contains powerful Pokémon like Dunsparce, as well as several useful items. Without Rock Smash, you cannot reach the deepest parts of the cave.
- Mount Mortar: Located north of Mahogany Town, this mountain is packed with items and a powerful Tyrogue encounter, but many of its alcoves are sealed by loose rocks.
- Victory Road: Naturally, the final cave before the Pokémon League is full of boulders you must break to reach the end. You cannot challenge the Elite Four effectively without having obtained and used Rock Smash.

Hidden Items and Rewards

Beyond the major areas, Rock Smash is your ticket to free items. In many routes and caves, smashing rocks yields:

- Repels and Poké Balls to keep you supplied.
- Status Healers like Antidotes and Paralyz Heals.
- Revives and Full Heals for end-game content.
- Rare Candies (in specific locations like the Ruins of Alph).

In a game where resources can be tight, smashing every rock you see is a great way to stock up on free items without spending Poké Dollars.

Common Mistakes and Misconceptions

Many players, even seasoned ones, make errors regarding Rock Smash. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- It is not a bicycle move: You cannot use Rock Smash while riding your bicycle. You must be on foot.
- It is not permanent: The rocks do not stay broken forever. If you leave the area and re-enter, the rocks reset. This is good, because it means you can farm items and encounters.
- It is not a key item: Unlike the Bicycle or the Super Rod, Rock Smash is a move that must be taught to a Pokémon. If you release or box your Rock Smash user, you will need to teach it to another Pokémon to use it again.
- You must have the correct badge: In Pokémon Silver, you need the Fog Badge (from Morty in Ecruteak City) to use Rock Smash outside of battle. If you got the HM early but cannot use it, this is why. Morty's gym is the fourth gym, so you will need to progress through the story a bit before the move becomes functional.

Rock Smash in Battle: A Modest Utility

While its field use is the main draw, Rock Smash is not entirely useless in battle. Its 50% chance to lower the opponent's Defense can be a decent support move, especially against bulky Pokémon like Snorlax or Blissey. However, its low base power means it should not be your primary attacking move. It is best used as a way to soften a target for a stronger Physical

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