

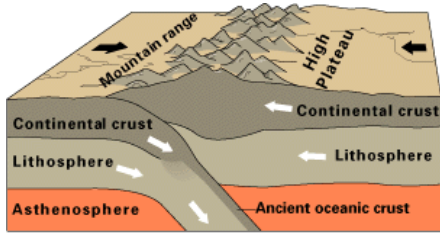
# Mountain Building

## What Do Converging Plates Create?

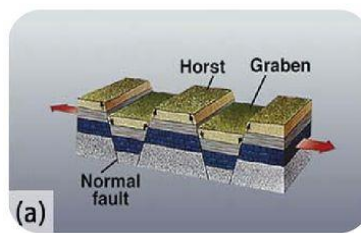
- **Converging** plates create mountain ranges through three combinations of plate types—continent-continent, continent-ocean, and ocean-ocean.
- The converging plates smash together and upward to create mountain ranges, and stress from these **uplifts** causes folds, reverse faults, and thrust faults.
- **Subduction** of oceanic lithosphere at convergent plate boundaries also builds mountain ranges on continental crusts.

### Study Tip

Diverging sounds like dividing, which means to separate, so diverging plates separate from each other.



Continental-continental convergence  
*Illustration of converging plates*



*Illustration of diverging plates*

## How Does Divergence Create Mountains?

- **Divergence**, or the plates spreading apart, can also create mountain ranges.
- Alternating mountains and valleys are created when tensional stresses pull the crust apart, breaking it into blocks that slide along faults. These are known as basin-and-range, where the uplifted blocks, or ranges, are known as horsts and the basins are called grabens.

## Concept Check

- Make sure you know the difference between convergence and divergence.
- Be able to define uplift.