**Table 1-1.** Comparative sizes of Earth’s shields and selected cratons

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| **Name** | **Size** | **Comment** |
| **Arabian-Nubian shield** | **725,000 km2** |  |
|  |  |  |
| Canadian shield | 5.5x106 km2 | Part of the North American (Laurentian) craton; made up of as many as 7 structural (tectonic) provinces |
|  |  |  |
| Greenland shield | 2.2x106 km2 | Part of North American craton |
| Guiana shield |  | Part of the Amazonian craton |
| Central Brazil shield | 2.4x106 km2 | Part of the Amazonian craton |
| Patagonian craton |  | Craton concealed by Phanerozoic rocks in southern South America |
| Kaapvaal craton | 1.2x106 km2 | Contains pristine 3.6-2.5 Ga crust |
| Zimbabwe craton |  |  |
| Congo (+Tanzanian) craton | 5.7x106 km2 |  |
| West African craton | 2300x1700 km |  |
| Tuareg shield | 500,000 km2 | An Archean massif located in the northern part of the Neoproterozoic Trans-Saharan (Pharusian-Dahomeyan) mobile belt |
| Benin-Nigeria shield |  | An Archean massif located in the southern part of the Neoproterozoic Trans-Saharan (Pharusian-Dahomeyan) mobile belt |
| Indian craton | 3.8x106 km2 | Includes the Dharwar, Singhbhum, and Bhandara cratons |
| Yilgarn block | 650 000 km2 | Yilgarn and Pilbara blocks are parts of the West Australian shield |
| Pilbara block | 60,000 km2 | Yilgarn and Pilbara blocks are parts of the West Australian shield |
| Gawler craton | 440,000 km2 | In central South Australia; and extension of the West Australian cranton |
| Siberian craton | 4.4x106 km2 | Includes the Aldan and Anabar shields |
| Aldan shield | 360,000 km2 | Part of the Siberian craton |
| Anabar shield | Triangle 300-400 km on sides | Part of the Siberian craton |
| Cathaysian craon | 4.0x106 km2 | Includes the Sino-Korean, Tarim, and Yangtze cratons |
| Sino-Korean craton | 1,704,000 km2 | Part of the Cathaysian craton |
| Tarim craton | 717,000 km2 | Part of the Cathaysian craton |
| Yangtze craton | 1,560,000 km2 | Part of the Cathaysian craton |
| East European craton | 5.35x106 km2 | Includes the Baltic and Ukranian shields |
| Baltic shield | 2.2x106 km2 | Part of the European craton |
| Ukranian shield | 200,000 km2 | Part of the European craton |

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