

## Actinolite - $\text{Ca}_2(\text{Mg};\text{Fe}^{2+})_5\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH})_2$

Hardness = 5 - 6. Cleavage: Good. Not attacked by acids. Easily cleaved; avoid vigorous scrubbing. Tolerates Iron OUT/EDTA. Insoluble in HCl and most other acids. When iron-rich slightly attacked by warm  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  or carbon dioxide-rich water. Minor mass loss but luster retained after seven days when treated with  $\text{NH}_4\text{HF}_2$ . Tolerates  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ . Mountain leather (mountain cork) variety may absorb impurities from water and become discolored; use only distilled water for cleaning.

### References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-18.html>

Handbook of Mineralogy: <https://www.handbookofmineralogy.org/pdfs/actinolite.pdf>

Hardinger, S. (2025) Mineral Specimen Cleaning and Development for the Amateur, 339 p.

Sinkankas, J. (1972) Gemstone & Mineral Data Book, 346 p. Winchester Press, New York.

Weiner, K. and Hochleitner, R. (1998) Profile actinolite: Complete information about the band silicate. LAPIS, 23 (9) 1998, 7–11. In German.