

Aegirine - $\text{NaFe}^{3+}\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6$

Hardness = 6. Cleavage: Good. Often fragile; avoid vigorous mechanical cleaning. Crystals often fractured and liable to disintegrate if handled roughly. Fractured crystals may not tolerate sonication. A soak in diluted water-based glue (polyvinyl acetate) followed by thorough drying before cleaning strengthens the specimen. Tolerates Iron OUT/EDTA as well as hot oxalic acid. Dilute HCl attacks only slowly.

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-31.html>

Handbook of Mineralogy: <https://www.handbookofmineralogy.org/pdfs/aegirine.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.