

## Ankerite - $\text{Ca}(\text{Fe}^{2+}, \text{Mg})(\text{CO}_3)_2$

Hardness = 3.5 - 4. Cleavage: Perfect. Brittle, cleavable. Slightly soluble in cold acids but rapidly when warm, especially HCl. Overall moderate resistance to acids. Can be cleaned with formic acid, acetic acid and citric acid. Acetic acid or acetic acid-based lime removers work well. Lime removers based on citric acid are milder; these dissolve carbonate deposits without attacking minerals like dolomite. Less sensitive to acids than calcite or strontianite. May develop surface rust after acid treatment unless rinsed thoroughly. Brown surface coating removed after 24 hours with  $\text{NH}_4\text{HF}_2$ , probably by dissolution of surface layer.

### References

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