

Cassiterite - SnO₂

Hardness = 6.5 - 7. Cleavage: Imperfect/fair. Hard; surface crusts can be removed with razor blade or sharp knife, although air abrasion is preferable. Crystals have excellent resistance to acids whereas powder may be attacked by hot concentrated acids. Stable to hot alkali or NH₄HF₂.

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-917.html>

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