

Corundum - Al₂O₃

Hardness = 9. Cleavage: None observed. Very hard and tough. Not thermally sensitive. Tolerates sonication well. Excellent chemical resistance. Inert to all acids, even when hot and concentrated. Tolerates Iron OUT/EDTA, hot oxalic acid, hot alkali and NH₄HF₂.

Sapphire and ruby are colored varieties of corundum and should be treated as noted above.

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-1136.html>

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