

Covellite - CuS

Hardness = 1.5 - 2. Cleavage: Perfect. Easily cleaved; avoid rough handling or vigorous brushing. Tolerates sonication with added detergent which may be useful to remove an alteration coating. Soluble in hot concentrated acids, especially in HNO₃. Brightened by Iron OUT/EDTA. Tolerates tartaric acid.

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-1144.html>

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