

Kernite - $\text{Na}_2[\text{B}_4\text{O}_6(\text{OH})_2] \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Hardness: 2.5. Cleavage: Perfect. Soft; splinters readily. Slowly soluble in cold water. Rapidly soluble in hot water or dilute acids. White powdery residue (tincalconite) forms over time as any borax present loses water; this residue is best removed by gentle application of compressed gas or with a quick rinse in cold water followed by thorough and immediate drying. Dehydrates in low humidity; store in sealed container.

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-2188.html>

Handbook of Mineralogy: <https://www.handbookofmineralogy.org/pdfs/kernite.pdf>

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Sinkankas, J. (1972) Gemstone & Mineral Data Book, 346 p. Winchester Press, New York.

Wight, Q. (1993) The Complete Book of Micromounting, 281 p. Mineralogical Record, Tucson, Arizona.