

Mesolite - $\text{Na}_2\text{Ca}_2\text{Si}_9\text{Al}_6\text{O}_{30} \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Hardness: 5. Cleavage: Perfect. Needles very fragile. Tolerates sonication (use only a minimal amount of mild detergent) but use care and minimize exposure (Rohner reports sensitive to sonication). Stable to pure water, acetone or alcohol. Rapidly soluble in HCl with gel formation. Soluble in cold concentrated citric acid. Attacked by H_3PO_4 , HNO_3 or H_2SO_4 .

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-2657.html>

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

Hardinger, S. (2025) Mineral Specimen Cleaning and Development for the Amateur, 339 p.

Rohner, T. (2000) Properly clean minerals online cleaning book.

www.strahlen.org/stepbystep/mineralien-reinigung2.pdf. In German.

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