

Microlite group - $A_{2-m}Ta_2X_{6-w}Z_n$

Hardness: 5 - 5.5. Cleavage: Imperfect/fair. May be radioactive. Inert to HCl. Very slowly attacked by H₂SO₄. Brown or black halos surrounding some crystals are due to radiation damage and are generally not removeable. In these cases, the crystal may be metamict and should not be removed from matrix.

A broad group of related minerals. Data given for the group as a whole.

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-2705.html>

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.