

## Natrolite (Laubanite) - $\text{Na}_2\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_3\text{O}_{10} \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Hardness: 5 - 5.5. Cleavage: Perfect. Fragile, delicate; avoid poking and prodding with any tools. For water rinse use only the gentlest of water streams. Delicate sprays tolerate sonication well or can be cleaned by holding upside and gently swishing in a chemical-free water bath. Readily soluble in HCl with silica gel formation. (Dilute to concentrated HCl is used to remove massive natrolite enclosing [benitoite](#), [neptunite](#) and other species in material from the California Gem Mine.) Attacked by other acids including citric acid. Readily attacked by formic acid. Stable to hot alkali.

### References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-2947.html>

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