Nephrite - No fixed composition

Hardness: Variable with composition. Cleavage: Variable with composition. "Nephrite is a rock comprising mostly massive microcrystalline to cryptocrystalline felted amphiboles of the actinolite-tremolite series." Tolerates sonication even with strong detergents or NH_3; this procedure useful to clean carvings. Excellent chemical resistance.

See also saponite.

References

Mindat: https://www.mindat.org/min-2881.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.