

## Pharmacosiderite - $\text{KFe}^{3+}_4(\text{AsO}_4)_3(\text{OH})_4 \cdot 6\text{-}7\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Hardness: 2.5. Cleavage: Imperfect/fair. May be sensitive to sonication. Attacked by acids. Brief exposure to HCl destroys luster. Avoid  $\text{NH}_3$ , detergents, soaps and other alkalis. In one case a color change caused by alkali was noted which was reversed upon brief exposure to 5% HCl.

### References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-3185.html>

Handbook of Mineralogy: <https://www.handbookofmineralogy.org/pdfs/pharmacosiderite.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](http://www.strahlen.org/stepbystep/mineralien-reinigung2.pdf). In German.

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