

Sillimanite - $\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_4)\text{O}$

Hardness: 6.5 - 7.5. Cleavage: Perfect. Insoluble in water. Stable to all mineral acids including HCl (but Rohner reports sensitivity to H_3PO_4 , HNO_3 , HCl or H_2SO_4 ; likely the hot and/or concentrated acids).

Varieties/related minerals (treat same as sillimanite): Fibrolite.

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-3662.html>

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

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

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

Weast, R., Ed. (1982) CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, 2380 p., CRC Press, Inc., Cleveland.