

Skutterudite (Smaltite) - CoAs_3

Hardness: 5.5 - 6. Cleavage: Distinct/good. Dust is toxic. Soluble in HNO_3 . Nearly inert to other acids including HCl and cold concentrated citric acid (use these acids to remove calcite). Attacked by HNO_3 . Tolerates Iron OUT. Tolerates NH_4HF_2 which may brighten some samples (temporarily or permanently).

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-3682.html>

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

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www.strahlen.org/stepbystep/mineralien-reinigung2.pdf. In German.

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