

Spodumene - $\text{LiAlSi}_2\text{O}_6$

Hardness: 6.5 - 7. Cleavage: Perfect. Easily cleaved. Sensitive to thermal shock damage. Some authors recommends avoiding sonication, but many samples have been successfully cleaned this way. Broad chemical resistance by Rohner reports sensitive to HNO_3 . Tolerates Iron OUT/EDTA. Gemmy samples (hiddenite, kunzite, triphane) stable to NH_4HF_2 . Colored varieties (hiddenite, kunzite, triphane) often photosensitive.

Varieties/related species (treat same as spodumene): Hiddenite, kunzite, triphane.

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-3733.html>

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

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