

Stibnite - Sb_2S_3

Hardness: 2. Cleavage: Perfect. Soft; easily bent and bruised. Insoluble in water. Dissolved in HCl. Rapidly attacked by HNO_3 . Attacked by H_3PO_4 and H_2SO_4 . Insoluble in acetic acid. Tolerates tartaric acid but attacked/completely soluble in some weak acids. Luster damaged by alkalis; avoid soaps, detergents and NH_3 . NaOH (5-10%) tolerated (but some luster may be lost) for crust removal but if crust formation is advanced specimen may disintegrate. Photosensitive; prolonged light exposure causes loss of luster. Tolerates Iron OUT/EDTA but leaves some samples dull or iridescent. Weast lists stibnite as soluble in ethanol, but this is most likely an error.

References

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