

Talc - $\text{Mg}_3\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH})_2$

Hardness: 1. Cleavage: Perfect. Among the softest of minerals, easily defoliated, scratched or bruised. Excellent chemical resistance; attacked slowly by hot concentrated H_2SO_4 . Tolerates Iron OUT/EDTA. Stable to NH_4HF_2 but some discoloration may occur.

Varieties/related species (treat like talc): Steatite, soapstone

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-3875.html>

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

Hardinger, S. (2025) Mineral Specimen Cleaning and Development for the Amateur, 339 p.

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