Vanthoffite - $Na_6Mg(SO_4)_4$

Hardness: 3.5. Cleavage: No data. Soluble in water and therefore intolerant of any aqueous treatment.

References

Mindat: https://www.mindat.org/min-4151.html

Handbook of Mineralogy: https://www.handbookofmineralogy.org/pdfs/vanthoffite.pdf

Howie, F., Ed. (1992) The Care and Conservation of Geological Material, 138 p. Routledge, London.

King, R. (1982) The cleaning of minerals. Journal of the Russell Society, 1 (1), 42–53. https://www.mindat.org/jrs/JRS%20Vol%2001-1.pdf

Kipfer, A. (1972) The Micromounter, 211 p. Ott Verlag Thun, Switzerland. In German.

Pearl, R. (1982) Cleaning and Preserving Minerals, Fifth Revised Edition, 87 p. Earth Science Publishing Company, Colorado Springs.

Rohner, T. (2000) Properly clean minerals online cleaning book. www.strahlen.org/stepbystep/mineralien-reinigung2.pdf. In German.

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

Wight, Q. (1993) The Complete Book of Micromounting, 281 p. Mineralogical Record, Tucson, Arizona.