

Whiteite group -

$\text{Ca}(\text{Fe}^{2+}, \text{Mn}^{2+})\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}_2(\text{PO}_4)_4(\text{OH})_2 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Hardness 3–4. Cleavage: Good to perfect. Attacked by HCl, H₂SO₄ or oxalic acid. May be sensitive to all acids to some extent. Very sensitive to strong alkalis.

A broad group of complex phosphates expected to have somewhat similar physical and chemical properties. Data given here for whiteite-(CaFeMg).

References

Mindat: <https://www.mindat.org/min-29343.html>

Handbook of Mineralogy: <https://www.handbookofmineralogy.org/pdfs/whiteite-CaFeMg.pdf>

Duthaler, R. and Weiß, S. (2024) Mineral Cleaning for Collectors, 3rd Edition, 190 p. Duthaler, Switzerland.