

# Leucite

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<b>General Mineral Formula:</b> $\text{KAlSi}_2\text{O}_6$
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<b>Mineral Chemical Class:</b> Tectosilicates : Feldspathoid Group
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<b>Specific Gravity:</b> 2.45-2.50
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<b>Hardness:</b> 5.5-6.0
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<b>Cleavage:</b> Poor. Conchoidal fracture. Brittle
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<b>Luster:</b> Vitreous
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<b>Streak:</b> White.
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<b>Characteristic Color(s):</b> White or Grey
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<b>Crystal System:</b> Tetragonal
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<b>Crystal Class:</b> $4/m$
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<b>Crystal Description (common forms, habit, etc.):</b> Open framework of four and six-member rings of Si/Al. Commonly show eight-sided to nearly round cross sections.
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<b>Environment (where you find the material:</b> In young, low-silica igneous basalt formed from direct lava cooling.
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<b>Common Mineral Associations (in samples, also consult text, notes:</b> Olivine, Nepheline, Agite, Biotite
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**Scientific Usage/Significance:** None

**Industrial or Social Use/Significance:** Used in the manufacture of ceramics and in dental prostheses.

**Environmental Significance:** Fertilizer for its potassium content.