

# Actinolite

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**General Mineral Formula:**  $\text{Ca}_2(\text{Mg},\text{Fe})_5\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH})_2$

**Mineral Chemical Class:** Inosilicates : Clinoamphiboles

**Specific Gravity:** 2.9-3.5

**Hardness:** 5.5-6.0

**Cleavage:** 2,2 prismatic, irregular fracture. Brittle. Fibrous

**Luster:** Vitreous, silky

**Streak:** White

**Characteristic Color(s):** Light to dark green; grayish green to black

**Crystal System:** Monoclinic

**Crystal Class:** 2/m

**Crystal Description (common forms, habit, etc.):** Elongated prismatic crystals in bladed groups, fibrous, and columnar. Also radiates as wheat sheaf formations and can form thin hairlike masses with interlocking fibers.

**Environment (where you find the material):** Contact and regional metamorphic rocks, serpentine deposits, hydrothermal replacement deposits, and as a secondary mineral in igneous basalt.

<sup>1</sup>Green, elongated, prismatic crystals. Fibrous

<sup>2</sup>Distinctive Green Color.

**Common Mineral Associations (in samples, also consult text,  
notes:** Albite, Barite, Chlorite, Talc, Epidote, Muscovite, Serpentine

**Scientific Usage/Significance:** None

**Industrial or Social Use/Significance:** One of the two minerals that form the gemstone Jade. Some fibrous varieties used as asbestos.

**Environmental Significance:** None