## Sodalite

## Benjamin Bass

## 24 February 2016



General Mineral Formula: Na<sub>8</sub>Al<sub>6</sub>Si<sub>6</sub>O<sub>24</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>

Mineral Chemical Class: Techtosilicates

Specific Gravity: 2.27-2.33

Hardness: 5.5-6.0

Cleavage: {110}Poor. Uneven, Conchoidal Fracture Brittle

Luster: Vitreous

Streak: White. But the streak of lazurite may be blue.

Characteristic Color(s): Light-Dark Blue; May vary. May Flourese

Crystal System: Isometric

Crystal Class:  $\overline{4}3m$ 

Crystal Description (common forms, habit, etc.): Massive, Anhedral.

Environment (where you find the material: Silicon-deficient, alkali-rich igneous rocks. Forms with feldpathoids.

Common Mineral Associations (in samples, also consult text, notes: Lazurite, pyroxene, calcite and other silicates.

**Scientific Usage/Significance**: Few. Folk medicine for Diabetes. Example of flourescence.

**Industrial or Social Use/Significance**: Dimension stone. Used to face buildings and other decorative purposes. Folk medicine for diabetes.

 $\bf Environmental~Significance:$  Very little. Can be found in contact, metamorphosed carbonate rocks.