

# Sanidine

Benjamin Bass

24 February 2016



**General Mineral Formula:**  $(K,Na)AlSi_3O_8$

**Mineral Chemical Class:** Tectosilicates

**Specific Gravity:** 2.5-2.6

**Hardness:** 6

**Cleavage:** 1,1 basal, 2,1 prismatic. angle of 90 degrees

**Luster:** Vitreous to pearly

**Streak:** White

**Characteristic Color(s):** Colorless, white, cream

**Crystal System:** Monoclinic

**Crystal Class:**  $2/m$

**Crystal Description (common forms, habit, etc.):** Commonly tabular crystals but occasionally prismatic. Frequent penetration twins and repeated twins + cleavage. Can occur massive and grainy. Has a clearish look to it.

**Environment (where you find the material:** In recent Alkaline volcanic environments rich in potassium. Forms in really hot temperatures.

**Common Mineral Associations (in samples, also consult text, notes:** Quartz, muscovite, biotite, plag. feldspars, sodalite

**Scientific Usage/Significance:** None

**Industrial or Social Use/Significance:** Yellow variety used as a gemstone.

**Environmental Significance:** None