



Minerals

Almandine

$\text{Fe}_3^{+2}\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_4)_3$ (Garnet Group)

Crystallography:

Isometric; $4/m\bar{3}2/m$. common forms are dodecahedron and trapezohedron. Also massive, granular.

Physical Properties:

Cleavage: Not prominent; {110} parting sometimes distinct. Fracture subconchoidal to uneven; brittle.

Hardness: 7.0.

Specific Gravity: 4.32.

Luster: Vitreous to resinous.

Color: Commonly red to brown.

Streak: White, or pale shade of body color.

Composition/Features:

An iron aluminum silicate, this garnet variety is generally recognized by its crystal form, hardness, and color.

Occurrence/Use:

A common and widely distributed mineral; often forming in metamorphic rocks from regional metamorphism of sediments. Mined commercially for a variety of abrasive products as well as gem stones.