Siderite

Mineral Reference Profile • Carbonates

Chemical / compositional reference

FeCO■

Mohs hardness

3.5–4.5

Physical properties

Many react with acid, commonly show good cleavage and have low to moderate hardness.

Geological occurrence

Common in sedimentary rocks, hydrothermal veins, oxidation zones, caves and metamorphosed carbonate rocks.

Economic, technological and cultural relevance

Construction materials, cement, lime, metallurgy, pigments, soil treatment, ornamental stone and sources of metals such as zinc, copper or iron.

Museum learning value

In the museum context, Siderite is used to connect observation with mineral identification, geological formation, material science, responsible resource use and the relationship between natural resources and society. Specimen-specific analytical data should always be read from the verified museum catalogue or laboratory record.