



# Minerals

## Sodalite



### Crystallography:

Isometric; 43m. Crystals rare, usually dodecahedrons. More commonly massive, granular.

### Physical Properties:

**Cleavage:** {011} poor. Fracture conchoidal to uneven; brittle.

**Hardness:** 5.5-6.0.

**Specific Gravity:** 2.15-2.3.

**Luster:** Vitreous.

**Color:** Often azure blue; also white, gray, green. Transparent to translucent.

**Streak:** White.

### Composition/Features:

A sodium aluminum silicate chloride, sodalite (a feldspathoid) is usually distinguished by its blue color and positive test for chlorine. Fusible at 3.5-4 to a colorless glass giving a strong yellow flame (Na). Soluble in HCl.

### Occurrence/Use:

A relatively rare rock-forming mineral often associated with nepheline, cancrinite, and other feldspathoids in nepheline syenites, trachytes, etc. Sometimes cut and polished as an ornamental stone.