



# Minerals

## Andradite

$\text{Ca}_3\text{Fe}_2^{+3}(\text{SiO}_4)_3$  (Garnet Group)

### Crystallography:

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

### Physical Properties:

**Cleavage:** None; parting sometimes distinct. Fracture subconchoidal to uneven; brittle.

**Hardness:** 7.0.

**Specific Gravity:** 3.86.

**Luster:** Vitreous to resinous.

**Color:** Shades of yellow, green, brown, to black; transparent to translucent.

**Streak:** White.

### Composition/Features:

A calcium-iron silicate of the Garnet Group similar to almandine. Fuses easily at 3-3.5 to magnetic globules. Usually distinguished by color and crystal form.

### Occurrence/Use:

Andradite occurs chiefly as a product of contact or regional metamorphism of impure (possible siliceous) limestones. A green variety of high luster, known as demantoid, is most valued as a gemstone.