

## Mineral Spotlight: Apophyllite

Apophyllite is a phyllosilicate mineral, which is hydrated potassium calcium silicate. It was once thought to be a single mineral and now it's divided into fluorapophyllite and hydroxyapophyllite. These two varieties of apophyllite form a solid solution series. When the exact chemical composition of the specimen has not been investigated, the sample is referred to as apophyllite.

This mineral has a tetragonal crystal system with tabular, cubic or octahedral crystals. In other cases the crystals are dipyrmidal or platy. This is a hydrothermal mineral which forms in cavities of basalts and tufa rocks containing stilbite, scolecite, calcite and prehnite. It is found in localities such as the Isle of Skye in Scotland, Guanajuato in Mexico, and Paterson in the US.

This feature was posted on Dice Museum social media by Museum docent Gregory Ian Oduor on 7/19/2021. It has since been edited to fit a web-based format.

