

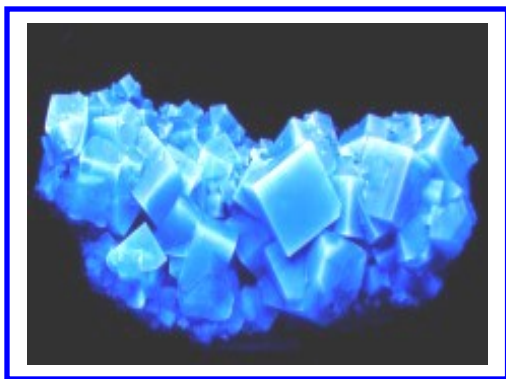


Fluorite



Fluorite is a translucent mineral that covers a rainbow of colors, yet has a clear streak. The crystal structure is cubic to octahedral, often with twinning like chalcopyrite, fluorite is found in hydrothermal veins, and hot springs, often alongside sulfides. It is fluorescent under ultraviolet light.

The mineral has been used as lenses in telescopes and microscopes, a flux for smelting, and even as a source of fluoride for hydrofluoric acid. It was named in 1798 by Carlo Antonio Geleani Napione, from Latin - “fluor” meaning stream, or to flow - for its use as a flux. Fluorspar is also a common name. Fluorite is also used in carving and jewelry, however with a hardness of 4 on the Mohs scale heavy wear is not recommended.



Groupe: Halide. Chemical formula is CaF_2 .

Pellant, Chris. Rocks And Minerals. New York, Dorling Kindersley, Inc., 2000. pg 74.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/fluorite>

This entry was posted in Articles on fossils/minerals and tagged fluorescent, fluorite, gem, mineral on December 11, 2014 [<https://ndrockclub.org/12/11/fluorite/>].