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an·tho·phyl·lite  (ăn'thə-fī līt', ăn'thōf ə-līt)

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n.

A grayish, brownish, or greenish amphibole mineral, $(\text{Mg,Fe})_7\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH})_2$, having a fibrous form that is a variety of asbestos.

[German *Anthophyllit* : New Latin *anthophyllus*, mother of cloves (the fruit of the clove tree, formerly much used as an aromatic or candied), clove tree (from Greek *anthos*, flower + *phullon*, leaf; see **bhel**-³ in the Appendix of Indo-European roots) + German *-it*, *-ite* (the mineral being so named in 1801 by Danish naturalist Heinrich Christian Friedrich Schumacher (1757-1830) in reference to the clove-brown color of his specimen).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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