



A crystal dendrite is a crystal that develops with a typical multi-branching tree-like form. The term "dendrite" comes from the Greek word dendron, which means "tree". In paleontology, dendritic mineral crystal forms are often mistaken for fossils. These pseudofossils form when naturally occurring fissures in the rock are filled by percolating mineral solutions. They form when water rich in manganese and iron flows along fractures and bedding planes between layers of limestone and other rock types, depositing dendritic crystals as the solution flows through the rock.