fragile

['frædʒail] *a* 1) хрупкий, ломкий

a fragile china cup - хрупкая фарфороваячашка

2) хрупкий, слабый; нежный

fragile health - слабое здоровье

3) непрочный, недолговечный; преходящий

fragile happiness - непрочное счастье

fragile

fra-gile BrE ['frædʒaɪ] NAmE ['frædʒl] adjective

- 1. easily broken or damaged
- fragile china/glass/bones
- Be careful not to drop it; it's very fragile.
- 2. weak and uncertain; easily destroyed or spoilt
- a fragile alliance /ceasefire /relationship
- The economy remains extremely fragile.
- In her job she was used to dealing with actors' fragile egos.
- 3. delicate and often beautiful
- fragile beauty
- The woman's fragile face broke into a smile.
- 4. not strong and likely to become ill/sick
- Her father is now 86 and in fragile health.
- (BrE, informal) I'm feeling a bit fragile after last night (= not well, perhaps because of drinking too much alcohol).

Derived Word fragility

Word Origin:

late 15th cent. (in the sense 'morally weak'): from Latin fragilis, from frangere 'to break'. The sense 'liable to break' dates from the mid 16th cent.

Thesaurus:

fragile [fragile fragility] adj.
• It's fragile, so don't drop it.
delicate • • brittle •
Opp: robust
fragile/delicate/brittle bones/glass
fragile/delicate china
(a) fragile/delicate thread
the fragile/delicate ecology
Eragile or delicate 2 Delicate fabrics like silk poor

Fragile or delicate ? Delicate fabrics, like silk, need special care

Use a cool wash for delicate fabrics.

Fragile fabrics need even more care, usually because they are very old.

Example Bank:

- Be careful not to drop it, it's very fragile.
- fragile habitats threatened by pollution

fragile

fra gile /'frædʒaɪl \$ -dʒəl/ BrE AmE adjective

[Date: 1400-1500, Language: Latin; Origin: fragilis; ⇒ [↑]frai]

1. easily broken or damaged OPP strong:

- Be careful with that vase it's very fragile. fragile bones
- 2. a fragile situation is one that is weak or uncertain, and likely to become worse under pressure OPP strong:
 - the country's fragile economy
 - Relations between the two countries are in a fragile state.
 - the party's fragile unity
- 3. fragile health a weak physical condition because of illness
- 4. thin and delicate:
- fragile beauty5. *British English* if someone feels fragile they feel ill, especially because they have drunk too much alcohol
- --fragility /frə'dʒɪləti, frə'dʒɪlɪti/ noun [uncountable]

THESAURUS

• fragile easily broken or damaged: The documents are old and very fragile. | a fragile glass case | The seventeenth century wall hangings are extemely fragile.

- delicate easily damaged – used especially about things that are made from thin material and look attractive: a delicate gold necklace | The plant has delicate blue flowers. | delicate fabrics

• brittle brittle hair, nails, bones etc have a hard surface, but they break easily, especially because they are not in good condition:

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

As you get older, your bones become more brittle. | a special shampoo for dry and brittle hair

• breakable breakable objects must be handled carefully because they will break easily: Put breakable objects out of the reach of children. | breakable ornaments

• flimsy made of thin material that tears easily, or badly-made and likely to break easily: a flimsy cotton shirt | a flimsy wooden table

• frail especially literary not strong and therefore easy to break, damage, or hurt: The young trees are frail and need to be protected from the wind. | a frail little fishing boat | a frail old lady

fragile

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