Materials

Facts About

Materials

We use wood, metal, plastic, glass and fabric to make most everyday objects.

Different materials have different properties.

Materials can be natural or man-made.

Here are a few facts about some materials:



Wood

Wood is a natural material. It comes from trees.

A few things made from wood are:

- furniture
- boats
- instruments
- paper

Wood is used as it can be carved in to any shape, is strong and has a very nice appearance.





Photo courtesy of (JudyKnesel@flickr.com) - granted under creative commons licence - attribution

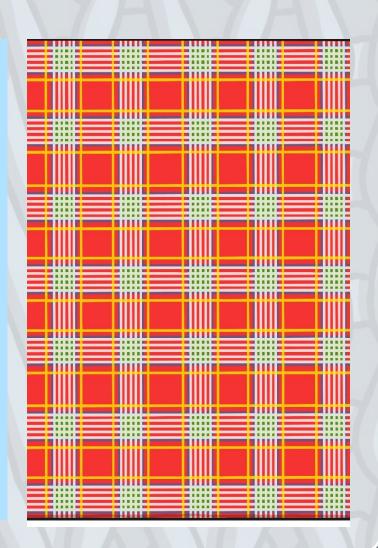
Fabric

Fabric comes from plants and animals.

A few things made from fabric are:

- Curtains
- Clothes
- Towels

Fabric is used as it is very light, warm, soft and quite easy to produce and sew.





Plastic

Plastics are man-made, mostly from oil.

A few things made from plastic are:

- Balls
- Bottles
- Carrier bags

Plastic is used as it can be made to be flexible, hard, rough or smooth. It is also very cheap to produce and easily washable.





Photo courtesy of (procsilas@flickr.com) - granted under creative commons licence — attribution

Metal

Metals are made from rocks. The rocks are dug up and taken to a factory where they are heated and processed in to metal.

A few things made from metal are:

- Jewellery
- Cutlery
- Cars

Metal is used as it is strong, hard, smooth and easily washable.





Glass

Glass is made from very fine sand. It is heated until it melts.

A few things made from glass are:

- Bottles
- Light bulbs
- Glasses

Glass is used as it is strong, hard, smooth, easily washable and transparent.

