

Properties of materials

If you have thought about the materials that are used to make some useful objects, we will find that in making an object, the choice of material depends on the use of the object and the suitable quality or property of the material.

Appearance

* The look or appearance of materials are different from each other. A piece of brick looks different from a piece of glass or a piece of wood.

* However, a group of materials may have the same appearance. Such as a piece of glass and a piece of plastic that we use to cover our notebooks. Similarly, most of the metals have a similar kind of appearance.

Hardness

There are some materials that feel hard while others feel soft when touched by hand. A piece of metal feels hard while cotton, wool or a sponge feels soft.

Soluble or insoluble

* when ^{we} mix solid materials in water, we can see that some materials completely disappear while some remain as they were in water.

* substance which disappear completely are said to dissolve in water and are called soluble materials.

* Those that remain unchanged are called insoluble materials.