

Synthetic Materials

- Synthetic vs Natural Materials
- Advantage and Examples of Natural Materials
- How Synthetic Materials are Made
- Examples of Synthetic Materials
- Environmental Impact of Synthetic Materials
- Medicines



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Synthetic vs. Natural Materials

- Examples include nylon, polyester, and spandex



Nylon is used to make the charging cord durable and flexible.

Natural materials are materials made directly by living things

- Examples include cotton, silk, and wool



Silkworms create natural silk.

Advantage of Natural Materials

- Very good at absorbing moisture and are less likely to catch fire

- They can be recycled



Natural cotton plants

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Natural Material - Cotton

- Comes from the cotton plant
- Soft and fluffy material
- Used largely to make t-shirts



Synthetic Materials

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- Cheaper and easier to use compared to natural fibers
- More stain resistant, durable, and water resistant



Petroleum sample.



Certain synthetic fibers can stretch up to 5X their normal size!

Synthetic Materials and Petroleum

Petroleum is a natural substance that is made from large amounts of dead organisms that are buried under the ground for a long time.



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Synthetic Material - Spandex

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- Used for many types of clothing and superhero suits
- Non-recyclable so they end up polluting the environment when thrown out



Synthetic Material - Polyester

- Created from coal and petroleum
- _____



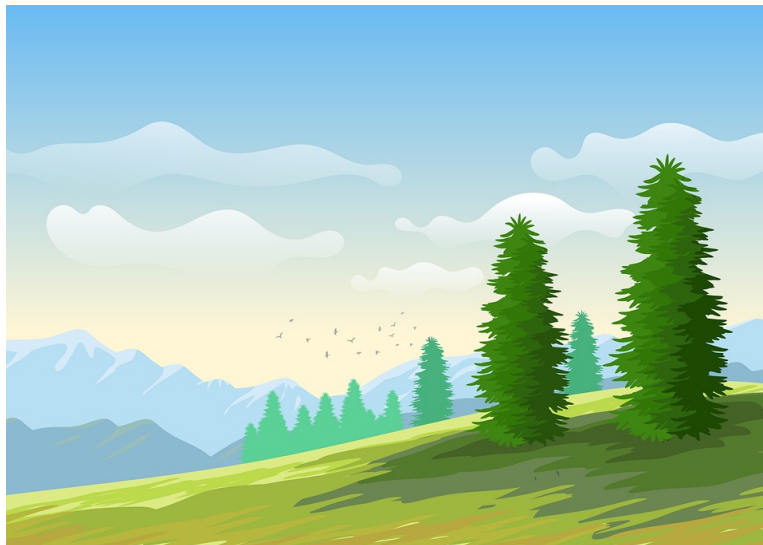
Close-up of a polyester shirt

- Used to make clothes, furniture, ropes, bottles, etc.



The Environmental Impact of Synthetic Materials

Getting the petroleum from the ground and using it to make synthetic materials is bad for the environment.



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The Environmental Impact

- _____
- Most synthetics are non-recyclable, so they end up being thrown away as garbage which creates pollution



Source: European Environment Agency

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Medicines

