







## Typical Characteristics of Common Materials

	Metals and Alloys	Ceramics	Polymers	
	Strong	Strong	Weak	
	Tough	Brittle	Durable	
	Stiff	Stiff	Compliant	
	High electrical conductivity	Electrically insulating	Electrically insulating	
	High thermal conductivity	Low thermal conductivity	Low thermal conductivity	
	Easy processing	Difficult processing	Easy fabrication	
	Susceptible to corrosion	Corrosion resistance	Corrosion resistance	
	Easily available	Light weight	Low cost	
		Temperature resistance	Temperature sensitive	
	Composites	Liquids and Gases	Semiconductor Materials	
	Strong	Material flows	Specialized characteristics	
	Fatigue resistant	Inert or corrosive	Not good electrical conductor	
	Stiff	Wide range of properties	Not good electrical insulator	
	Range of electrical conductivity	Low electrical conductivity	Electrical insulator at low temperatures	
	Range of thermal conductivity	Low thermal conductivity	Electronic properties altered by doping	
	Versatile	Versatile	Wide range of other properties	
	Low weight	Generally low weight		
<u>T1933</u>	Low cost	Generally low cost		
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