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Plastics processing, mold making

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Synthetic glossary

• **ABS Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene**

- + high impact and notched impact strength, even at low temperatures
- + high mechanical strength and stiffness
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- + high hardness and scratch resistance
- + good thermal shock resistance
- + low water absorption
- + high dimensional stability
- + good resistance to chemicals (except for solvents!)
- + very easy to paint, galvanize, or print on

• **PA Polyamide (Nylon)**

- + high strength, stiffness, and hardness
- + high thermostability
- + high abrasion resistance, good anti-friction properties
- + high resistance against solvents, fuels, and oils
- moderate dimensional stability and variable hardness

• **PC Polycarbonate**

- + high transparency
- + good toughness
- + high stiffness
- + high accuracy to gage
- + high dimensional stability
- + low water absorption
- tends to form stress cracks

• **PE Polyethylene**

- + low density
- + high toughness and elongation at break
- + good chemical resistance
- + low water absorption
- low thermostability

- **POM Polyoxymethylene, Polyformaldehyde, Polyacetal**

- + high stiffness, strength and hardness
- + high toughness down to -30 °C
- + good springiness properties
- + low water absorption
- + good resistance to chemicals
- + good abrasion resistance
- + good anti-friction properties
- +

- **PP Polypropylene**

- + low density (0,9 g/cm³)
- + very high resistance to chemicals
- + well-balanced between hardness, stiffness, and toughness
- + low water absorption
- moderate thermostability

- **PSN Polystyrene (crystal clear)**

- + transparent
- + low water absorption
- + very stiff
- + neutral taste and smell
- + very easy to print on, weld, and paint
- + low shrinkage and warpage
- limited resistance to chemicals

- **PSI Polystyrene Impact SB**

- + opaque
- + impact-resistant
- + stiff to flexible
- + low water absorption
- + very easy to print on, weld, and paint
- + low shrinkage and warpage

- **PVC Polyvinylchloride**

- + good resilience
- + low cold flow
- + high toughness
- + high resistance to chemicals

- **TPU Thermoplastic Polyurethane**

- + high wear resistance
- + high flexibility over a wide temperature range
- + good resistance against oils, greases, and many solvents
- + good damping properties
- + good resilience
- + good dynamic loading capacity

These specifications are non-binding. The properties can vary depending on the manufacturer, type, or use of fillers.

This site has been generated on 22.05.2019 | 03:24:05 o'clock.