

FAQs

1. Write a few notes on properties of plastics

- The plastics are sufficiently strong and can be **used for load bearing structural members**. The strength of plastics can further be increased by reinforcing them with various fibrous materials.
- The plastics, prepared from phenolic resins, are only good in **resisting weather effects**. Certain plastics are seriously affected by ultraviolet light.
- Plastics, **being organic in nature, are combustible**. But the resistance to fire temperature depends upon the plastic structure. Plastics generally **possess sufficient durability**, provided they offer sufficient surface hardness. Thermoplastic varieties are found to be attacked by termites and rodents.

2. Write briefly about applications of plastic as building material

- **Flooring** - Plastic materials like **polyvinyl chloride (PVC)** and polyethylene are used to make **flooring less prone to wear and tear**. It also decreases the sound pollution level and can be cleaned easily.
- **Roofing** - To protect the outer surface of the roof from damage, **two layers of different plastic materials are required**. The upper part is made of colored thermoplastic olefin or vinyl while the lower part consists of polyurethane foam which consumes less energy and keeps the interior of a house cooler.
- **Wall** - A structural insulated panel (SIP) is a sandwich of expanded polystyrene amidst two slim layers of oriented strand board. This type of **pre-fab, composite wall board** can be transferred to the work place easily for a particular task and **provide good support to columns and other associated essentials during renovation**.

3. Write a few notes on laminates

- Laminates are engineered materials **made from paper and plastic resins**.
- From furniture and cabinetry, their implementation today has extended to **decorative walling and flooring too** where they can prove to be a good alternative to hardwood.
- Being **scratch-resistant, and requiring a mere cleaning and no polishing, their maintenance remains easier than that of veneers**. Lending an elegant touch to all products, laminates are available in numerous design patterns, colours and textures

4. Write briefly about manufacture of laminates

- The decorative laminate manufacturing process **involves soaking brown paper, decorative paper, and translucent paper in plastic based resins.**
- The brown paper which forms the base is soaked in phenol formaldehyde, while the other two papers are soaked in melamine resin.
- The soaked papers **after drying become hard and brittle.**
- These papers are **then pressed and bonded together under high pressure and temperature.**