

Physical Properties of Matter

What Are Physical Properties?

Physical properties are characteristics of matter that can be observed or measured without changing what the substance is made of.

If no new substance is formed, the property is physical.

State of matter

Properties You Can Test or Measure

Mass

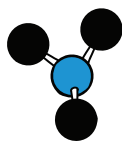
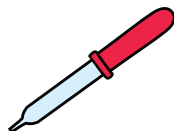
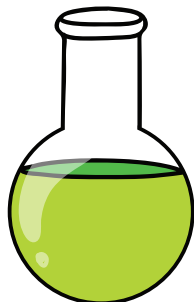
Volume

Density

Magnetism

Flexibility

Absorbency



Common Physical Properties

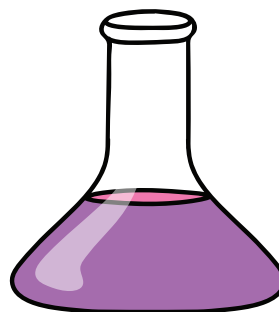
Properties You Can Observe

Color

Shape

Size

Texture



Physical vs Chemical Properties

Physical Properties

Observed or measured

No new substance forms

Often reversible

Example: Ice melting into water



Chemical Properties

Involve reactions

A new substance forms

Often not reversible

Example: Baking soda reacting with vinegar



Hands-On Physical Property Tests

Texture Test

Sort objects by rough or smooth.

Magnet Test

Test which objects are attracted to a magnet.

Sink or Float Test

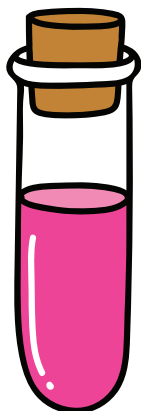
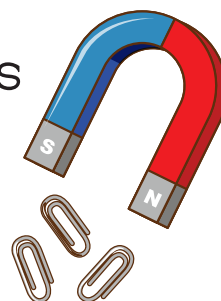
Place objects in water and observe whether they sink or float.

Absorbency Test

Compare how much water different materials absorb.

Flexibility Test

Bend materials to see which ones flex without breaking.



Think Like a Scientist : How are the objects the same?

How are they different? Which physical property helped you decide?

What did you notice?