

## Metals and Plastics

### Metals

These are very good conductors of heat making them suitable for making pots and pans. They make good ornaments because they have a shine when polished. This high polish makes it able to keep foods hot. Metals are strong. This quality makes it useful in making burglar bars, windows and door frames. Metals are ductile and malleable making it able to be drawn into wires and roll into sheets.

### Plastics

Plastics are made from organic compounds. Plastics can exhibit different properties based on their method of synthesis. These can be low- melting to high temperature resistant plastics. Plastics are very poor conductor of heat and do not conduct electricity, but can be used as insulators. Plastics do not corrode and can be tough and durable. They are relatively cheap and can be made from by- products of the petroleum industry. Plastics are readily available. There are different types of plastics:

1. **Thermo- plastics:** can resist high heat up to 450<sup>0</sup>C, can be used to line pots.
2. **Polythene:** can be used to make wrappings and bags.
3. **Poly Vinyl Chloride (P.V.C.)** uses:
  - Water pipes and fittings.
  - Sewage drain
  - Conduit tubes for electric cables
  - Protective covering for roofs
  - Furniture