
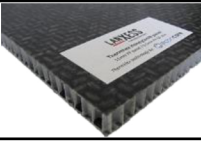









Knowledge Organiser AQA Design & Technology 8552

1: Forces and Stresses

Force	Description	A fair test for each force/stress.	How a material / object can be adapted to resist	Examples
Tension	Forces pulling in opposite directions.	Apply the same weight to each material and suspended in the same manner.	Concrete can have steel bars inserted to reinforce.	
Compression	Forces that are trying to crush or shorten.	Insert materials into a vice/clamp and apply the same amount of twists to the handle.	Composite panels can have a honeycomb structure sandwiched in the middle to resist.	
Bending	Flexing force	Apply the same weight to the material.	Steel beams have an I profile to resist bending.	
Torsion	Twisting force.	Use clamps & stands to hold the materials and turn in opposite directions at the same angle.	The diagonals on a tower crane help the structure against torsion.	
Shear	A strain produced when an object is subjected to opposing forces.	Place the material between a tool that works in opposite directions. e.g. Shears	Bolts are hardened and have unthreaded shanks to help stop shearing.	

2. Improving functionality of materials

Process	Description	Result	Example	Visual Example
Lamination	Layering of thin materials	Depending on the direction of lamination it can make boards stiffer or actually more flexible	Plywood: Laminations at 90 degrees to each other - Rigid Flexi-ply: laminations all the same direction - Bendy	
Bending / Folding	Folding a 90 degree edge on sheet metal / plastic	Makes the panel more rigid	Body panels on cars	
Webbing	Modern polymer fabrics woven together	Extremely strong and durable fabric	Seat belts	
Fabric interfacing	A strengthening material added to the unseen face of a fabric	Adds strength / shape	Shirt collars	

1: The Modification of properties for specific purposes

Process	Material	Purpose
Seasoning	Timber	Removes the moisture content so that the timber will not shrink, warp and twist
Annealing (heating)	Copper	Softens the copper to make it more malleable
Addition of Stabilisers	PVC	Stops plastic become brittle with exposure to the sun



Timber being seasoned in a kiln



Copper bowl being annealed



Metal compounds (stabilisers) are added to PVC for UV protection