

# Materials Humans Use

## Common Materials We Use from the Earth

- People depend on natural resources for everything that keeps us fed, sheltered, and entertained

### Study Tip

Remember that the resources found in everyday items may be renewable or nonrenewable, and an object may contain some of each.

Common Object	Natural Resources Used	Are These Resources Renewable or Nonrenewable?
Cars	15 different metals, such as iron, lead, and chromium to make the body  Precious metals like gold, silver, and platinum	Nonrenewable
Jewelry	Gems like diamonds, rubies, emeralds, turquoise	Nonrenewable
Electronic Appliances (TV's, computers, DVD players, cell phones, etc.)	Many different metals, like copper, mercury, gold	Nonrenewable
Clothing	Soil to grow fibers such as cotton  Sunlight for the plants to grow  Animals for fur and leather	Renewable
Food	Soil to grow plants  Wildlife and agricultural animals	Renewable
Bottled Water	Water from streams or springs  Petroleum products to make plastic bottles.	Nonrenewable and Renewable
Gasoline	Petroleum drilled from wells	Nonrenewable
Household Electricity	Coal, natural gas, solar power, wind power, hydroelectric power	Nonrenewable and Renewable
Paper	Trees for timber	Renewable
Houses	Rocks and minerals for construction materials, such as granite and gravel	Nonrenewable and Renewable

## Concept Check

- What resources are important to you that are renewable? Nonrenewable?
- What resources do you use that you could use less or not use at all?
- How might one of these resources go from being renewable to nonrenewable?

