Materials Properties Research Handout

Property	Definition	Example
brittle	Hard but liable to break or shatter easily.	glass
conductor	A substance, body, or device that readily conducts heat, electricity, sound, etc.	copper
durable	Able to withstand wear, pressure or damage; hard-wearing.	steel
elastic	Capable of returning to its original length, shape, etc., after being stretched, deformed, compressed or expanded.	rubber
flexible	Capable of being bent, usually without breaking; easily bent.	plastic
hard	Not soft; solid and firm to the touch; unyielding to pressure.	stone
heavy	Of great weight; hard to lift or carry.	concrete
inexpensive	Not expensive; not high in price; costing little.	wood
insulator	A material or an object that does not easily allow heat, electricity, light or sound to pass through it.	wool
light (weight)	Of little weight; not heavy.	paper
rigid	Unable to bend or be forced out of shape; not flexible.	concrete
rough	Having an uneven or irregular surface; not smooth or level.	stone
smooth	Free from projections or unevenness of surface; not rough.	glass
soft	Yielding readily to touch or pressure; easily penetrated, divided or changed in shape; not hard or stiff.	cotton
strong	Able to resist strain, force, wear, etc.	steel