

# What is rubber?

Raw Rubber is made up of molecules that are basically a very, very long chain of carbon atoms with repeating sets of attached atoms such as hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine or groups such as methyl and acrylonitrile.

The different elements and groups change the properties of the rubber.

All rubbers are polymers.

A Natural Rubber molecule may have between 20,000 and 120,000 Carbon atoms in its chain with attached hydrogen and methyl groups.  
(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>5</sub> CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>n</sub>

Raw Rubber is stable in a tangled state. The forces between the molecules are weak so it can be shaped by the application of external force. However, its elastic nature means it will try to recover its preferred configuration after deformation.

