

## Static Electricity Terms

# Information Sheet Information Sheet



### Here are some important static electricity terms:

- Materials that are attracted to each other after being rubbed are "**charged**".
- Materials that have been rubbed together are said to have an "**electric charge**".
- Charges that stay on the surface of the charged object are referred to as "**static electricity**".
- **Electrostatics** is a term we use to describe the science of static electricity.
- Materials that do not have a charge are said to be "**neutral**". Charged materials can attract neutral ones.

**Most metals are conductors and most non-metals are insulators.**

### MAKING SENSE OF STATIC ELECTRICITY

Some objects and materials attract each other and some repel each other when charged.

### TYPES OF CHARGE

All charged objects fit into two categories, "**positive**" or "**negative**".

The "**law of attraction and repulsion**" explains this principle. It states that like electric charges **repel** each other and unlike charges **attract** each other.

### CONDUCTORS AND INSULATORS

"**Insulators**" are materials that **do not** let charges move freely.

"**Conductors**" are materials that do allow charges to move freely.