

* 4.3. Friction

What is friction?

Rub your hands together for 30 seconds.

How do your hands feel? Are they warmer?

Friction is a force which tries to stop things sliding past one another. It is caused when two surfaces rub together.



Friction only acts on moving objects and it cannot make objects move. Friction slows down moving objects. It changes the energy of moving objects into heat energy as the objects slow down.

Explain why friction is useful.

Read these sentences about friction. Underline the correct words to complete the sentences.

- Friction is caused when two surfaces rub / stick together.
- Friction can / cannot make an object move.
- Friction speeds up / slows down moving objects.
- Friction changes heat / movement energy into heat / movement energy.
- Friction helps objects slide / grip on surfaces.