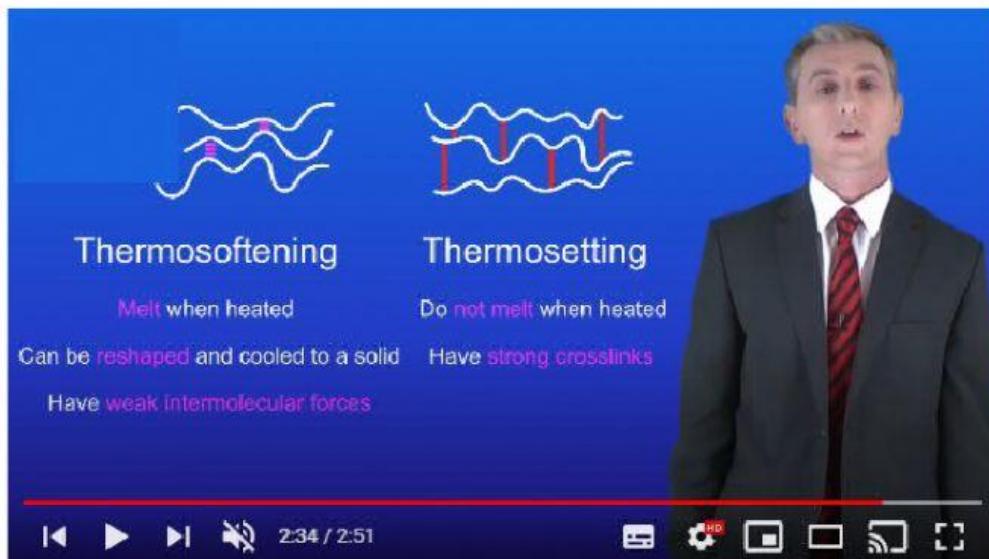


## Thermosoftening and thermosetting polymers (<https://youtu.be/lmYCDMWBqRo>)



Hi, welcome back to free science lesson dot co dot you key ([freesciencelessons.co.uk/](http://freesciencelessons.co.uk/)). By the end of this video you should be able to describe and explain the properties of **thermosoftening (termoplásticos)** and **thermosetting (termoestables)** polymers.

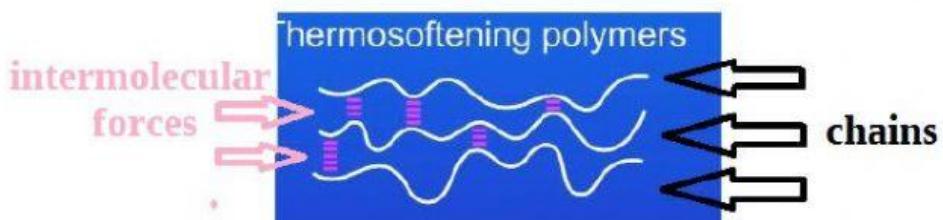
This comes up (Esto surge) in the exam almost every year. Many \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_ and it's very easy to produce polymers with different properties if we simply change the conditions that were used to \_\_\_\_\_ them.

A good example is **polythene (PE 2,4 /poli'izin/)**. This is used to make plastic bottles. \_\_\_\_\_ **polyethylene (LDPE, 4)** is used to produce the main part of the bottle, which is soft, but if we change the conditions or the catalyst (catalizador) we can produce a harder version called \_\_\_\_\_ **polythene (HDPE, 2)** which is used for lids (tapones).

Now in this video we're going to focus on two different groups of polymers called **thermosoftening (termoplásticos)** and **thermosetting (termoestables)**. You should be able to explain their \_\_\_\_\_ in terms of their \_\_\_\_\_ so we start by looking at **thermosoftening (termoplásticos)** polymers.

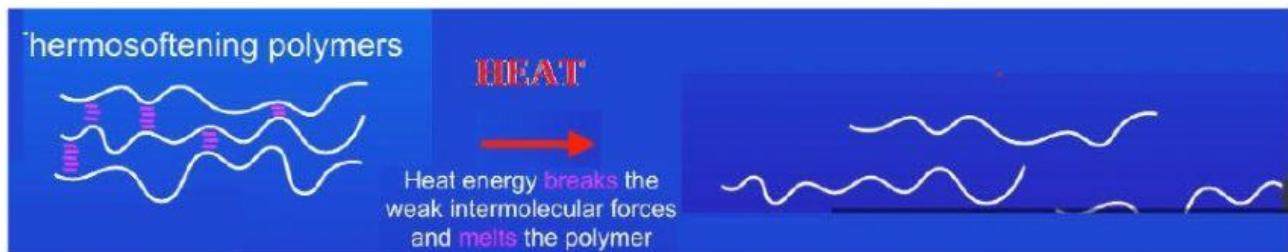
Now **thermosoftening** polymers (termoplásticos) \_\_\_\_\_ (funden) when \_\_\_\_\_ so they can be \_\_\_\_\_ (re-formar/formar de nuevo). They then go back to a solid when cooled back down.

Let's take a look at the structure of **thermosoftening** polymers and see why they melt when they're heated. Here's the **structure of thermosoftening** polymers.

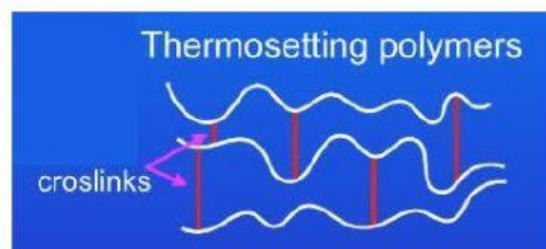


This diagram is often showing in exams so it's worth (merece la pena) learning. You can see that we have polymer \_\_\_\_\_. These are \_\_\_\_\_ together by **weak (débiles) intermolecular forces** under that's really important to learn.

If we heat **thermals softening** polymers the heat energy causes the **weak intermolecular forces** to vibrate and then \_\_\_\_\_ and this melts the polymer. Now if we cool the melted polymer we reform the **intermolecular forces** and the polymer goes back to a solid. OK.



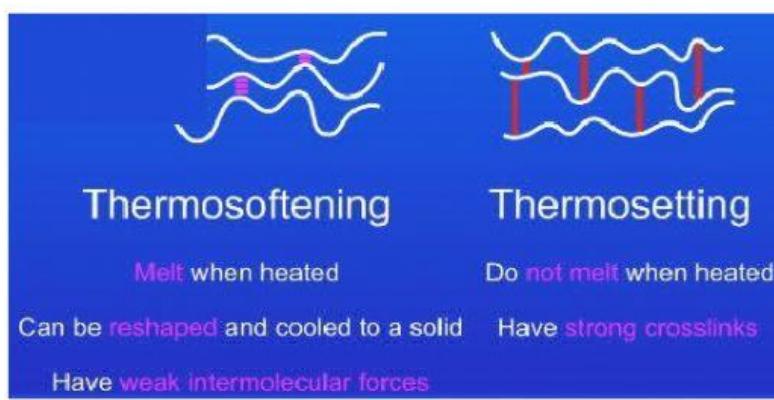
Now we're going to look at another type of polymer called **thermosetting** (termoestable). The key (clave) feature of **thermosetting** polymers is that they will not \_\_\_\_\_ when \_\_\_\_\_ so let's look at the **structure** of these molecules.



So you can see that **thermosetting** polymers also have polymer \_\_\_\_\_ but this time they're connected to each other (unas a otras) by **strong** (fuertes) **cross links** (enlaces cruzados). The **strong cross links** are not broken by heat so **thermosetting** polymers do not melt (funden).

So let's recap (recapitulemos). **Thermals softening** polymers will \_\_\_\_\_ when \_\_\_\_\_. They can be \_\_\_\_\_ and cooled back to a solid. **Thermosoftening** polymers have **weak intermolecular forces** holding (sujetando) the chains to each other (unas a otras).

**Thermosetting** polymers do not \_\_\_\_\_ when \_\_\_\_\_ and that's because they have **strong cross links** holding (sujetando) the chains to each other. OK.



So hopefully (afortunadamente) now you can describe and explain the properties of **thermosoftening** and **thermosetting** polymers.