

## Aluminium Fast Facts

### Aluminium is:

- Is an element with the chemical symbol Al
- From the Roman word Alumen
- Found combined in over 270 different minerals with the main ore of aluminium being bauxite
- Processed into a metal after it is separated from the ore
- A silvery-coloured metal
- Not normally soluble in water
- Can be alloyed with almost any other metal to create materials with different properties - some alloys are even stronger than steel
- Very light (about one third the weight of copper), yet strong
- Highly rust and corrosion resistant
- Non-toxic and non-inflammatory
- Malleable and ductile (can be beaten and drawn into a wire)
- A good heat and electrical conductor
- Used in building and construction- cladding, doors, window frames, awnings and bridge rails.
- Used in transport, appliances, equipment, telephone cable and capacitors, machinery, utensils, packaging foil, cans and containers.



Aluminium – Image courtesy of Queensland Resources Council

For more information on aluminium see [Geoscience Australia](http://www.geoscience.gov.au)

