

# Polyvinyl Chloride Encyclopedia Article

## Polyvinyl Chloride

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# Contents

<a href="#">Polyvinyl Chloride Encyclopedia Article.....</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Contents.....</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Polyvinyl Chloride.....</a>	<a href="#">3</a>

# Polyvinyl Chloride

Polyvinyl chloride, also known as PVC, is a plastic produced by the polymerization of **vinyl chloride**. It is used with plasticizers to make packaging films, boots, garden hose, etc. Without plasticizers, PVC is used to make pipe, siding, shingles, window frames, toys, and other items. An attractive aspect of PVC for industry is its ability to withstand **weathering** and its **resistance** to **chemicals** and solvents. However, this attractive aspect is the major environmental concern for PVC and many other **plastics**. The great bulk of such plastic (about 98%) is neither reused nor recycled but occupies ever dwindling **landfill** space.