



MAGNETS GLOSSARY

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ALNICO MAGNET	Aluminum, nickel, and cobalt used to make strong, permanent magnets.
BATTERY	A stored source of electrical energy that converts chemical energy to electrical energy when its terminals are linked in a circuit.
CERAMIC MAGNET	Usually made of strontium ferrite, a form of iron.
COW MAGNET	A cylindrical magnet pushed into a cow's throat and thus swallowed so it lodges in a cow's first stomach. It prevents injury by attracting wire from bales of hay or barbed fences that the cow swallows.
DOMAIN	The region inside a magnetic material, such as steel or iron, containing billions of atoms that have their magnetic fields pointing generally in the same direction.
ELECTROMAGNET	A temporary magnet made of a piece of iron within a coil of insulated wire. When electric current passes through the wire, the iron becomes a magnet. The iron core concentrates the force. It loses its magnetism when the current is turned off.
LODESTONE	A naturally occurring mineral called magnetite with high iron content and possessing magnetic properties.
MAGNET	An object that is surrounded by a magnetic field and that has the property of attracting magnetic materials, such as iron or steel.
MAGNETIC	Material that has a magnetic field and the properties of a magnet. Any material capable of being magnetized or attracted to a magnet.
MAGNETIC FIELD	A force field in and around a magnet.
MAGNETIC POLE	The areas of a magnet where the magnetic field is the strongest.
NORTH-SEEKING POLE	The pole of a magnet that will point to the north magnetic pole if the magnet pivots or swings freely.
REPEL	When two magnets are placed with like poles together (n-n or s-s) and their magnetic fields interact, they push away or repel.
TEMPORARY MAGNETS	Magnets that lose all or most of their magnetic properties after the magnetizing force is removed. Electromagnets are temporary magnets.