





#### Workplace Safety

# What You Should Know About Choosing an Absorbent Sock

# Brought To You by New PIG | Feb 05, 2025

Absorbent Socks may look similar, but they are far from it. Each sock is designed for different applications and has a unique set of features. Whether you need something that is static dissipative or mildew resistant, there's an absorbent sock to fit your needs.

#### **Universal Absorbent Socks**

*Universal socks* will absorb oils, coolants, solvents and other common industrial fluids. These socks are commonly used in an industrial setting for spill response and nuisance drips.

#### **Original Absorbent Sock**

Skin: Polypropylene

Filler: Corn Cob

**Incinerable:** Yes: Because these socks have a cellulose-based cob filler, they produce a low percent ash value and a low to moderate Btu/lb. value (higher Btu values mean more energy is released and less ash means less byproduct after incinerating).

What you need to know: This sock is surface-conforming, making it a good option to place around the base of machinery to catch small leaks and drips.

#### **Blue Absorbent Sock**

Skin: Polypropylene

Filler: Vermiculite

**Incinerable:** Yes: However, the sock yields a high ash percent and low Btu/lb. value. This is due to the vermiculite filler.

#### What you need to know:

• Great for diking or surrounding spills to prevent them from spreading

• Used in New PIG's Universal Spill Kits

### Super Absorbent Sock

Skin: Polypropylene

Filler: Flame-Retardant Cellulose

Incinerable: Yes: This product yields a low ash percent and moderate Btu/lb. value.

### What you need to know:

- New PIG's most absorbent universal sock
- Wringable for reclamation of the absorbed liquid
- Cannot be reused
- Great for absorbing large volumes of liquid

## Flat Absorbent Sock

Skin: Polypropylene

Filler: Flame-Retardant Cellulose

Incinerable: Yes

#### What you need to know:

- Provides large surface area coverage which allows for maximum absorption
- Wringable for reclamation of the absorbed liquid
- Cannot be reused
- Great for placing around machines or areas with height restrictions

## Water-Absorbing Socks

Water might seem harmless, but persistent leaks and drips can wreak havoc on workplaces. Whether you have a large spill from a leaking pipe or a small amount of condensation to clean up, there's a *sock to help with your water problems*.

#### Mildew-Resistant Water Absorbent Sock

Skin: Polypropylene

Filler: Polypropylene

UV Resistant: No

Incinerable: Yes: This product yields a low ash percent and moderate Btu/lb. value.

#### What you need to know:

- Great for absorbing drips and condensation from under freezers, coolers, and equipment
- Mildew-Resistant Sock is completely made of polypropylene and (as its name suggests) resists the growth of mildew
- The sock can be air-dried and reused several times

#### Super Water-Absorbing Sock

#### Skin: Polypropylene

Filler: Cellulose w/ Polymer Blend

UV Resistant: No

What you need to know: The Super Water-Absorbing Sock is a single-use product for cleaning up large volumes of water on contact to confine/contain pools and puddles.

### Dryer-Safe Reusable Water Absorbent Sock

Skin: Polyester

Filler: Polyester

UV Resistant: Yes

#### What you need to know:

- Dryer-Safe Reusable Water Absorbent Sock is great for placing in windowsills or around coolers, freezers or air conditioners or in other damp areas to absorb condensation and small leaks
- Can be washed, dried and reused up to 50 times

## **Oil-Absorbing Socks**

*Oil-Only socks* are made with a hydrophobic material and will repel water. These socks are best for oil spills on water or outdoor oil spill response.

#### Oil-Only Sock

Skin: Polypropylene

Filler: Hydrophobic Cellulose

Incinerable: Yes: This product yields a low ash percent and moderate Btu/lb. value.

#### What you need to know:

- Hydrophobic sock that will repel water and absorb hydrocarbon-based liquids
- Can be used to absorb spills on both water and land
- Cannot be reused
- Need to be replaced once they reach their absorbent capacity

#### **Oil-Only Maintenance Sock**

Skin: Polypropylene

Filler: Hydrophobic Cellulose

Incinerable: Yes: This product yields a low ash percent and moderate Btu/lb. value.

What you need to know: The Oil-Only Maintenance Sock performs exactly like the standard Oil-Only Sock; however, the maintenance sock is intended for indoor use only.

Skimmer Sock

#### Skin: Polypropylene

### Filler: Polypropylene

Incinerable: Yes: This product yields a low ash percent and moderate Btu/lb. value.

#### What you need to know:

- Hydrophobic sock that will repel water and absorb hydrocarbon-based liquids
- Since this sock has an all polypropylene construction, it can be used to skim oil from corrosive baths/tanks
- Cannot be reused

#### Static Dissipative Absorbent Socks

Skin: Polypropylene

Filler: Polypropylene

Incinerable: Yes: This product yields a low ash percent and moderate Btu/lb. value.

#### What you need to know:

- Hydrophobic sock that will repel water and absorb hydrocarbon-based liquids
- Can be used to absorb spills on both water and land
- A static dissipative additive helps these socks meet ANSI/ESD STM11.11 and MIL-STD-3010C standards

## Absorbent Socks for Hazardous Chemicals

*Hazardous chemical absorbent socks* are designed for chemical spills. These socks will absorb a wide range of acids, bases and unknown liquids.

#### HazMat Socks

Skin: Polypropylene

Filler: Polypropylene

Incinerable: Yes: This product yields a low ash percent and moderate Btu/lb. value.

#### What you need to know:

- New PIG's best sock for acids, bases, and unknown liquid
- Polypropylene filler provides a great chemical compatibility range

Selecting the right sock for your application can make a big difference in the performance and outcome of spill response.

Previously Featured on New PIG's blog. Browse sorbents from New PIG on MSCDirect.com.

www.mscdirect.com/betterMRO

Copyright ©2025 MSC Industrial Supply Co.