

Thermoplastic and Thermosetting Polymers

14.13 This question asks for comparisons of thermoplastic and thermosetting polymers.

- (a) Thermoplastic polymers soften when heated and harden when cooled, whereas thermosetting polymers, harden upon heating, while further heating will not lead to softening.
- (b) Thermoplastic polymers have linear and branched structures, while for thermosetting polymers, the structures will normally be network or crosslinked.