

Mudfords

SUPPLIERS TO INDUSTRY, TRANSPORT AND CONSTRUCTION

ROPE – IDENTIFICATION BY THE BURN TESTING

1. Hold a sample of the rope near a clean non-smokey flame, do the fibres melt or shrink away from the flame.
2. Move the sample into the flame, take notice of the way it burns.
3. Remove from the flame, does it continue to burn, what does the vapour smell like.
4. Extinguish any flames and examine the residue.

| | DOES IT MELT | HOW DOES IT BURN | WHEN IT IS TAKEN FROM THE FLAME | HOW DOES THE VAPOUR SMELL | WHAT IS THE RESIDUE LIKE |
|----------------------|--------------|--|--|--|---|
| POLYPROPYLENE | Yes | Burns easily Melted drops fall Smokey flame | Continues to burn rapidly End is a melted lump Can be stretched to a fine thread | Like hot asphalt or paraffin wax | Brown tinged yellow beads which slowly harden |
| POLYESTER | Yes | Does not readily ignite Melted drops fall Blackish smoke | Stops burning Small black bead on end Can be stretched to a fine thread | Like diesel or soot Slightly sweet like sealing wax | Hard beads generally black but could be white |
| NYLON | Yes | Does not readily ignite Yellow melted drops fall White smoke | Stops burning Small bead on end Can be stretched to a fine thread | Like celery or fishy odour | Hard yellow beads |
| POLYETHYLENE | Yes | Burns and curls | Continues to burn slowly End is a melted lump Cannot be stretched | Like burning paraffin wax | Doesn't bead Crushable like wax |

Please note that the above results would be affected by any contamination on the fibres of the rope.

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