

Renewable and Non-Renewable Resources

What is renewable energy?

Renewable energy uses energy sources that are not "used up". For example, solar power from the sun is renewable as we won't "use up" all the sunlight from the sun. Examples of non-renewable energy sources include fossil fuels like coal and oil. Once we use or burn these resources, they are gone forever.

Why is renewable energy important?

Much of the world relies on non-renewable energy to heat their homes, power their electronic devices, and power their cars. Once these energy sources are used up, they will be gone forever. Developing technologies that can efficiently use renewable energy sources is critical to our future.

The click the link below to learn more about the most common forms of renewable energy:

[Wind Energy](#)

[Solar Energy](#)

What is non-renewable energy?

Non-renewable energy comes from sources that will run out or will not be replenished in our lifetimes—or even in many, many lifetimes. Most non-renewable energy sources are fossil fuels: coal, petroleum, and natural gas. Carbon is the main element in fossil fuels. For this reason, the time period that fossil fuels formed (about 360-300 million years ago).

The click the link below to learn more about the most common forms of non-renewable energy:

[Coal](#)

[Nuclear](#)



Check With the Experts--ESS3-1. Obtain and combine information to describe that energy and fuels are derived from natural resources and their uses affect the environment.



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