



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.*