

TABLE 11.5 Surface energies of metals

Material	Transition temperatures		Surface energy (tension) γ (mJ m ⁻²) ^a		
	Boiling point T_B (K) ^b	Melting point T_M (K) ^b	Just above T_M	Just below T_M	At 300 K
	Metals				
Aluminium	2543	931	700	800	1100
Silver	2223	1233	1000	1200	1500
Copper	2603	1356	1300	1600	2000
Iron	2773	1803	1500	1800	2400
Tungsten	5273	3653	2500	3600	4400
Semi-conductor					
Silicon	2623	1683	750	~ 1100	1400
Weak conductor					
Ice	373	273	75	110	71

^a Values from Wawra (1975) and other standard references. Values for solids ($T < T_M$) are only approximate, the exact value of γ depends on the crystallographic plane.

^b At 760 mm Hg.