

State of matter

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The distinct forms in which **matter** can exist, described by its **compressibility** behaviour and **structural rigidity**.

The five most typical **states of matter** are:

Solid	Fluid			Plasma
	Supercritical Fluid	Liquid	Gas / Vapour	

The **Liquid**, **Gas** and **Supercritical Fluid** are combined under the term **Fluid**.

It is closely related to the concept of **Phase** which exists in one of the **states of matter**.

The process of changing the **state** from one to another is called **Phase Transition**.

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Fig. 1. PT Diagram showing the different non-plasmatic states of matter.

See also

Natural Science / Physics