



STEEL LIBS

Super Structural Steel!



Did you know...



Steel is a very strong, **durable**, and smart building material that is used in many aspects of our **lives**. In fact, most things that a **magnet** will stick to are made of steel! Lots of **steel** that goes into buildings starts out as other things, like bridges, **cars**, refrigerators, **washing machines**, ships, and medical supplies. One really cool thing about steel is that it is completely recyclable and can be **recycled** over and over again. **Steel mills** take these old metals and use **electricity** to melt them into new steel. Once the bubbling, **molten** metal reaches 3,000 °F, it's ready to be made into new buildings! That mixture is called an alloy, and it contains iron and a little bit of carbon. It is so **hot** that it is hotter than lava from an erupting **volcano**, and the new steel needs several hours to cool down enough to touch it safely.



After the steel cools and gets rolled into different shapes and sizes, it can then be used to construct things like buildings where **people** live and work. A five-story, steel-framed **office building** uses 500 tons of structural steel. **Yowza**, that is a ton of steel! That is equal to 360 shredded **cars**, 65 tons of recycling from homes and offices, 79 tons of industrial scrap, and 122 **old** appliances. Next time you see a steel building or bridge, imagine all the old steel items that were recycled and used to **make** it. Nearly seven trillion pounds of structural steel are produced in **the United States** every year, which is about **500,000** fully grown African elephants. **Gadzooks**, that is a lot of elephants! The average American uses at least 10 things made of **steel** before they even **leave** the house in the morning. Steel is super!



Smarter.
Stronger.
Steel.