



# Renewable vs nonrenewable energy sources

Nonrenewable energy comes from sources that will run out or will not be replenished in our lifetimes--or even in many, many lifetimes. Most nonrenewable energy sources are fossil fuels: coal, petroleum, and natural gas. Carbon is the main element in fossil fuels.

Renewable energy, usable energy derived from replenishable sources such as the Sun (solar energy), wind (wind power), rivers (hydroelectric power), hot springs (geothermal energy), tides (tidal power), and biomass (biofuels).

There are two major categories of energy: renewable and non-renewable. Non-renewable energy resources are available in limited supplies, usually because they take a long time to replenish. The advantage of these non-renewable resources is that power plants that use them are able to produce more power on demand.

Renewable energies generate from natural sources that can be replaced over a relatively short time scale. Examples of renewable energies include solar, wind, hydro, geothermal and biomass. Nonrenewable energies come from resources that are not replaced or ...

Renewables: how much of our energy comes from renewables? Renewable energy is a collective term used to capture several different energy sources. "Renewables" typically include hydropower, solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, and wave and tidal energy.

What are renewable and nonrenewable energy sources? A renewable energy source is a resource we can access infinitely; it's one that constantly replenishes itself without human involvement. Renewable energy sources come from natural elements such as wind, water, the sun and even plant matter.

Energy resources can be put into two categories--renewable or non-renewable. Non-renewable resources are used faster than they can be replaced. Renewable resources can be replaced as quickly as they are used. Renewable resources may also be so abundant that running out is impossible.

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