

States of Matter Notes

There are four states or phases of matter:

1. **Solid** – a solid has a *definite* shape and size – it's particles are *very close together* and are moving *very slowly*. They have the *least* amount of energy.

2. **Liquid** – a liquid has a *definite size* but *no definite shape*. Liquids *take the shape of* whatever container they are in. It's particles are *further apart* and are *moving faster* (have more energy) than the particles in a solid.

3. **Gas** – a gas has *no definite* size or shape. They will *expand to fill* any container they are in. It's particles are the *furthest apart* and are moving the *fastest*. They have the *most* energy.

4. **Plasma** – a *high* energy form of matter. It is the only form of matter that gives off *electromagnetic radiation*