

Abrasive - a material which can wear others away

Actuator - a device which operates something

Aesthetics - the artistic, tastefulness and beauty of the product

Airborne - floating around in the air

Allowance - extra fabric to allow for seams

Alloys - a mixture of two or more metals

Amplifier - a circuit which makes small signals larger

Amplitude - height of a signal

Analogue signal - a signal which is changing in amplitude

Analysis - finding out

Annealing - making metal softer and easier to work

Annual ring – growth ring produced each year as a tree grows

Anthropometric data - data about the sizes of measurement of people, what they can reach and hold etc.

Artefact - a manufactured object

Automata - model of figures which move when handles are turned

Axis - the centre of rotation