For parachutes the best choice materials need to be strong, thin, and flexible

* Needs to be strong so the parachute doesn’t rip
* Needs to be thin so that it’s lightweight
* A flexible parachute can be tightly packed and unfolds easier. It also allows for shock absorption when firing, reducing the risk of it snapping off during ejection

General materials used for smaller parachutes:

* Thin plastic sheets
* Mylar
* Plastic drop cloths
* Dry-cleaning bags
* Trash bags
* Gift wrapping plastic

For rockets with a mass greater than 300 grams use these types of materials: cotton, silk, polyester, or nylon