

**Table 3.5** Some common alloys, their constituents, properties and uses

Alloy	Constituents	Properties	Uses
Brass	Copper, zinc	Can be easily cast, strong, malleable, corrosion resistant	Making castings, sheets, tubes, valves, screws, nuts, bolts, utensils, school bells, cartridges, scientific instruments, telescopes, microscopes, barometers, decoration items
Bronze	Copper, tin, zinc	Very strong, highly corrosion resistant	Making coins, metal statues, machineries and ship's propellers
Steel	Iron, carbon	Very strong, hard, tough	Construction of bridges, vehicles, ships, as building material
Stainless steel	Iron, chromium, nickel	Strong, hard, resistant to corrosion (rust proof), acid proof	Making cutlery, utensils, ornamental pieces, surgical instruments
Duralumin	Aluminium, copper, magnesium, manganese	Strong, light, resistant to corrosion, ductile, easily castable	In pressure cooker, fluorescent tube caps, aircraft, automobile and ship parts
Magnalium	Aluminium, magnesium	Hard, very light (lighter than Al)	Light instruments, balance beams, in aircraft and automobile parts