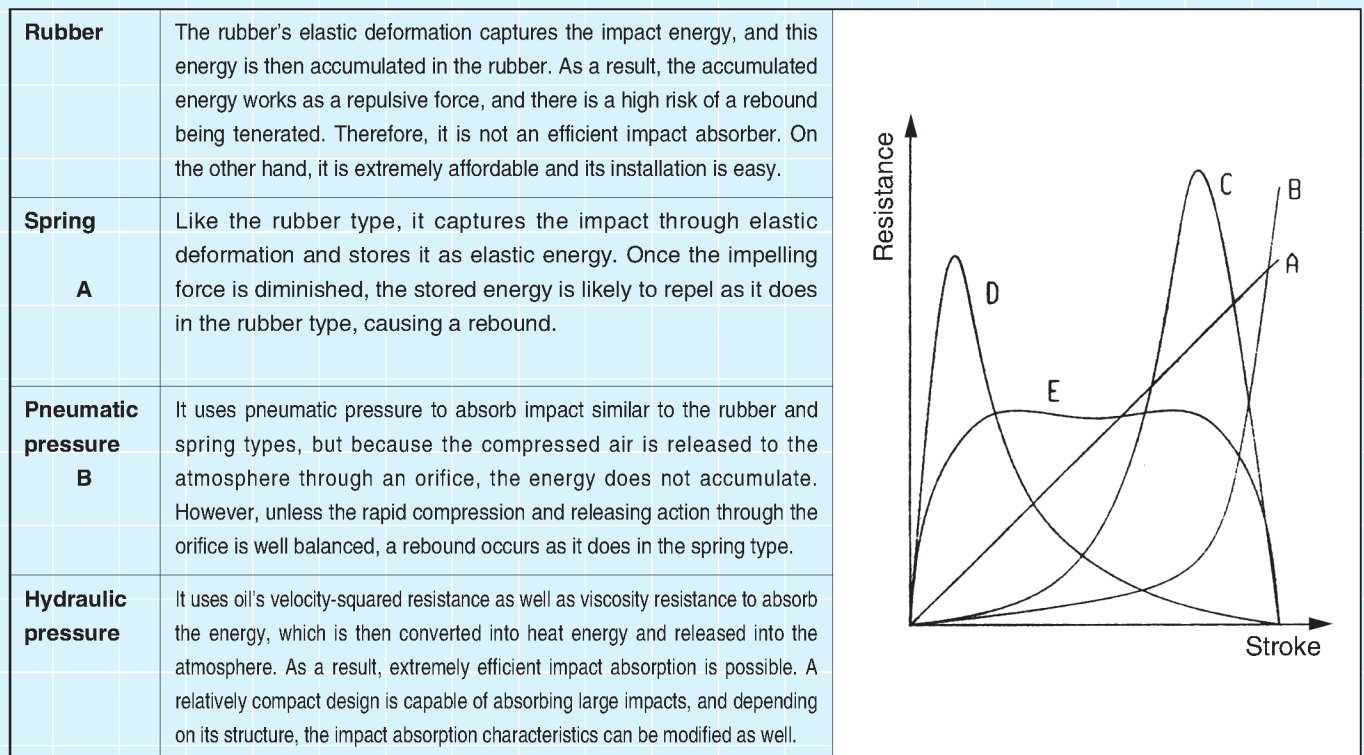




# Principles of Soft Absorbers

## What is a Soft Absorber?

In order to increase the productivity of industrial machines, such as automatic assembling machines, various transportation machines, machine tools, and so on, their operating parts have been made to work faster. However, the resulting impact, vibration, and noise have caused adverse effects on the machine's performance and on the working environment. A soft absorber is an extremely convenient hydraulic buffer that can solve such problems. There are similar devices made of rubber, springs, or devices that use pneumatic pressure, but none of them rival the impact absorption characteristics of the hydraulic type, as illustrated below.



## <Principles of Energy Absorption>

As shown below, when an object hits the piston rod, the motion is transferred to the oil in the pressure chamber through the piston rod. As a result, the oil inside the pressure chamber flows out of the orifices located in the inner tube. This causes compression in the pressure chamber. The product of this hydraulic pressure and the pressure-applied area of the piston is resistance, which acts on the colliding object. Soft absorbers use this resistance to apply the brake to the colliding object, slowing it down. The hydraulic pressure generated inside the pressure chamber is proportional to the square velocity of the colliding object, as long as the orifice size, oil viscosity, etc. are constant. This is called velocity-squared resistance.

