- Sorbo (_____). Also sorbo.
- [Invented name: cf. absorb v.]
- The proprietary name of a make of sponge rubber. Usu. attrib., esp. as sorbo rubber. Also fig.
- 1917 Trade Marks Jrnl. 15 Aug. 799 Sorbo Sponge substitutes (India Rubber). Leeson Sponge and Rubber Co. Ltd.
- 1919 Ibid. 7 May 575 Sorbo Rubber-Sponge Products Ltd.
- 1926 7 Army & Navy Stores Catal. 104/2 Sorbo sponges---each 1/3.
- 1939 Archit. Rev. LXXXV. 251 (caption) The smaller sketch shows the large rounded sorbo strips fixed to door edges.
- 1940 Amat. Radio Handbk. (ed. 2) 134/1 Most microphones will tend to pick up floor vibrations if rested directly on the table. For this reason they should preferably be placed on a piece of sorbo rubber.
- 1941 C. Kirkus Let's go Climbing ix. 132, l_put the sorbo mattress underneath my outer clothes, donned gloves and balaclava, and prepared to spend the night.
- 1941 R. West' Black Lamb & Grey Falcon I. 319 Astra_bounced from the platform like a great sorbo ball to say good-bye.
- 1942 M. Dickens One Pair of Feet viii. 159 Toots pursed her sorbo lips over the result.
- 1963 G. Freeman Campaign vii. 102 Boat-like red slippers with thick, white sorbo soles.
- 1976 Lancet 9 Oct. 801/2 The endangered areas, trochanters and sacrum, are kept free of pressure by placing the patient on a pillow or, better, sorborubber packs.