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Droplets on highly deformable, elastic surfaces exhibit unusual wetting behaviour. The deformability of the substrate alters the contact angle with respect to Young’s law, and we will contrast this case of “elasto-wetting” with that of electrowetting. In addition, the spreading dynamics on soft surfaces is fundamentally different from that on rigid surfaces, owing to viscoelastic effects. We report recent experimental and theoretical progress on the topic, and highlight some of the salient features of the solid’s surface tension.