



GEOLABS, INC.

Geotechnical Engineering

Soil Classification Log Key

(with deviations from ASTM D2488)

GEOLABS, INC. CLASSIFICATION*

GRANULAR SOIL (- #200 <50%)	COHESIVE SOIL (- #200 ≥ 50%)
PRIMARY constituents are composed of the largest percent of the soil mass. Primary constituents are capitalized and bold (i.e., GRAVEL, SAND) SECONDARY constituents are composed of a percentage less than the primary constituent. If the soil mass consists of 12 percent or more fines content, a cohesive constituent is used (SILTY or CLAYEY); otherwise, a granular constituent is used (GRAVELLY or SANDY) provided that the secondary constituent consists of 20 percent or more of the soil mass. Secondary constituents are capitalized and bold (i.e., SANDY GRAVEL, CLAYEY SAND) and precede the primary constituent. accessory descriptions compose of the following: - with some: >12% - with a little: 5 - 12% - with traces of: <5% accessory descriptions are lower cased and follow the Primary and Secondary Constituents (i.e., SILTY GRAVEL with a little sand)	PRIMARY constituents are based on plasticity. Primary constituents are capitalized and bold (i.e., CLAY, SILT) SECONDARY constituents are composed of a percentage less than the primary constituent, but more than 20 percent of the soil mass. Secondary constituents are capitalized and bold (i.e., SANDY CLAY, SILTY CLAY, CLAYEY SILT) and precede the primary constituent. accessory descriptions compose of the following: - with some: >12% - with a little: 5 - 12% - with traces of: <5% accessory descriptions are lower cased and follow the Primary and Secondary Constituents (i.e., SILTY CLAY with some sand)
EXAMPLE: Soil Containing 60% Gravel, 25% Sand, 15% Fines. Described as: SILTY GRAVEL with some sand	

RELATIVE DENSITY / CONSISTENCY

Granular Soils			Cohesive Soils			
N-Value (Blows/Foot)		Relative Density	N-Value (Blows/Foot)		PP Readings (tsf)	Consistency
SPT	MCS		SPT	MCS		
0 - 4	0 - 7	Very Loose	0 - 2	0 - 4		Very Soft
4 - 10	7 - 18	Loose	2 - 4	4 - 7	< 0.5	Soft
10 - 30	18 - 55	Medium Dense	4 - 8	7 - 15	0.5 - 1.0	Medium Stiff
30 - 50	55 - 91	Dense	8 - 15	15 - 27	1.0 - 2.0	Stiff
> 50	> 91	Very Dense	15 - 30	27 - 55	2.0 - 4.0	Very Stiff
			> 30	> 55	> 4.0	Hard

MOISTURE CONTENT DEFINITIONS

Dry: Absence of moisture, dry to the touch

Moist: Damp but no visible water

Wet: Visible free water

ABBREVIATIONS

WOH: Weight of Hammer

WOR: Weight of Drill Rods

SPT: Standard Penetration Test Split-Spoon Sampler

MCS: Modified California Sampler

PP: Pocket Penetrometer

GRAIN SIZE DEFINITION

Description	Sieve Number and / or Size
Boulders	> 12 inches (305-mm)
Cobbles	3 to 12 inches (75-mm to 305-mm)
Gravel	3-inch to #4 (75-mm to 4.75-mm)
Coarse Gravel	3-inch to 3/4-inch (75-mm to 19-mm)
Fine Gravel	3/4-inch to #4 (19-mm to 4.75-mm)
Sand	#4 to #200 (4.75-mm to 0.075-mm)
Coarse Sand	#4 to #10 (4.75-mm to 2-mm)
Medium Sand	#10 to #40 (2-mm to 0.425-mm)
Fine Sand	#40 to #200 (0.425-mm to 0.075-mm)

Plate

A-0.2

*Soil descriptions are based on ASTM D2488-09a, Visual-Manual Procedure, with the above modifications by Geolabs, Inc. to the Unified Soil Classification System (USCS).