

# Soil Types

Can you match the facts with their soil type?



BRITISH SOCIETY  
OF SOIL SCIENCE



CLUE Some facts are included twice as they apply to two types of soil!

Tend to be rich in nutrients

Have a gritty feel when rubbed between your fingers

Have a soapy, slimy feel when wet and rubbed between your fingers

Warms up quickly in Spring

Heavy soils prone to waterlogging

Tend to be fertile

Light and easy to work

Are easy to work

Dark in colour, warm up quickly in Spring

Come from a build-up of dead rotted plants, so contain lots of organic matter

Warm up fairly early in Spring

Warm up quicker than clay but slower than sandy soils in Spring

Lowland peat soils are easy to work once drained

Tend to be low in nutrients

Warm up slowly in Spring

Can store large amounts of water for plant growth

Contain a mix of sand, silt and clay particles

Act as a sponge and can hold on to water well

Slightly gritty, slightly sticky feel when wet

Very sticky when wet

Sandy Soil

Silty Soil

Peaty Soil

Clay Soil

Loamy Soil

DID YOU ENJOY THIS GAME?  
WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!



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# Soil Types ANSWERS

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## Sandy Soil

Have a gritty feel when rubbed between your fingers

Warms up quickly in Spring

Light and easy to work

Tend to be low in nutrients

## Silty Soil

Have a soapy, slimy feel when wet and rubbed between your fingers

Warm up quicker than clay but slower than sandy soils in Spring

Can store large amounts of water for plant growth

Tend to be fertile

## Peaty Soil

Dark in colour, warm up quickly in Spring

Act as a sponge and can hold on to water well

Lowland peat soils are easy to work once drained

Come from a build-up of dead rotted plants, so contain lots of organic matter

## Clay Soil

Very sticky when wet

Warm up slowly in Spring

Heavy soils prone to waterlogging

Tend to be rich in nutrients

## Loamy Soil

Slightly gritty, slightly sticky feel when wet

Contain a mix of sand, silt and clay particles

Warm up fairly early in Spring

Are easy to work

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