DR. DIRT'S BACKYARD SCIENCE

Dr. Dirt's Soil Tests Anyone Can Do at Home

11 kitchen and backyard experiments for kids and their grown-ups.



Dr. Dirt's tip: test two spots, one where plants thrive and one where they struggle, and compare. Every result tells a story about the life under your feet.

1 Jar Test

What is your soil made of: sand, silt or clay?

2 Ribbon Test

Feel your soil: is it gritty, silky or sticky?

3 Slake Test

Is your soil glued together by life?

4 Can Soak Test

How fast does rain sink into your soil?

5 Wire Flag Test

Where does your soil get hard?

6 Earthworm Count

How many worms live in one shovel of your soil?

7 Smell Test

What does healthy soil smell like?

8 Vinegar Fizz Test

Is there lime, coral or shell in your soil?

9 Bug Funnel

Meet the tiny critters that shred leaves into soil.

10 Tea Bag Rot Test

How hungry is your soil life?

11 Red Cabbage pH Test

Is your soil sour (acid) or basic?

Scan for every test, step by step
and a cut-and-fold book
drdirt.earth/soil-tests.html

Want the numbers? At the market booth, Dr. Dirt tests soil live and shows you its life under the microscope. · Natural Healing for Plants and People