

How to Collect a Single Soil Sample

STEP 1

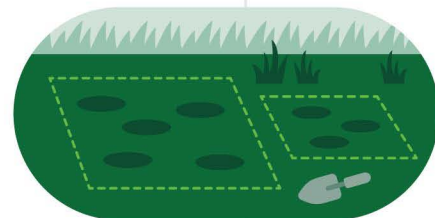
Identify an area of interest for your soil sample.



STEP 2

Collect Soil. For a large area, collect soil from 5-10 random spots in that area, and combine in a clean container. For a small area, collect soil from 3 random spots and combine in a clean container.

See table below for sampling depth per spot.



STEP 3

Mix soil well in a clean container.



STEP 4

Remove pebbles, rocks and roots, and air dry. Do not use a flame, oven or hairdryer to dry the soil.

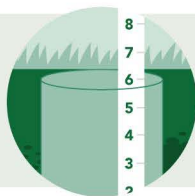


STEP 5

Transfer 1-2 cups of the mixed soil into a clean one-quart plastic bag and label with sample location and number of soil spots.

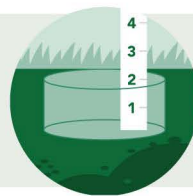


Sampling Depths



Garden Area

Collect all soil from the surface down to 6-8 inches deep.



Play Area / Non-Garden Area

Collect all soil from the surface down to 1-2 inches deep.

For more than one sample, repeat steps 1-5. Rinse your container between samples. Limit of 3 sample bags/person.