

PRODUCT MANUAL **6.5 – SOIL CLASSIFICATION TABLES**

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ENGINEERING

Load-bearing soil classification ¹

MINIMUM LOAD BEARING VALUE ² psf (kPA)	SOIL DESCRIPTION
2,000psf (96)	Clay, sandy clay, silty clay, and clayey silt
3,000psf (144)	Sand, silty sand, clayey sand, silty gravel, and clayey gravel
4,000psf (192)	Sandy gravel and medium stiff clay
>4,000psf (192)	Stiff clay, gravel, sand, sedimentary rock, and crystalline bedrock

- 1 User must verify that the values in this table agree with local codes and practices
- 2 Tabulated values are the presumed strength of the soil, undisturbed (the maximum design load bearing value for the basement or foundation wall footing).

Equivalent fluid density soil classification ^{1 2}

MAXIMUM EQUIVALENT FLUID DENSITY pcf (KG/m ³)	UCS ² CLASSIFICATION	SOIL DESCRIPTION
30pcf (481)	GW, GP, SW, SP, GM	Well-drained, cohesionless soils such as clean (few or no fines) sand and gravels
45pcf (721)	GC, SM	Well-drained, cohesionless soils such as sand and gravels containing silt or clay
60pcf (961)	SC, MH, CL, CH, ML-CL	Well-drained, inorganic silts and clays that are broken up into small pieces

- 1 User must verify that the values in this table agree with local codes and practices.
- 2 USC - Uniform Soil Classification system