

Type of Soil	Looks like	Feels like	Made of	Advantages (good things)	Disadvantages (bad things)
Sandy		Rough	Mostly sand	Good for making some things	Does not hold water
Clayey		Hard and smooth when dry. Sticky when wet	Mostly clay	A lot of water is good for some plants (like rice!). Good for making things	Holds a lot of water – too much for most plants
Silty		Powdery when dry. Smooth when wet	Mostly silt	Has a lot of nutrients – very good for growing plants	Sometimes holds too much water. Easily washed away
Loamy		Soft and Light	Almost equal sand, silt, and clay	Best soil for growing plants	-----
Chalky		Rough	Pieces of stone	-----	Dries out very quickly. Plants Cannot get nutrients
Peaty		Spongy	Mostly humus	Has a lot of plant food	Not enough air