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Designing With Geosynthetics - CBR Advice

To provide technical assistance and recommendations we often need to know the CBR (California Bearing Ratio) of the existing soils on site. If no figures are known we offer the following advice to help ascertain an indicative CBR figure. We would always prefer accurate figures from a soil investigation report or even a soil penetration test; however in the abscence of this information the following guide will allow us to put an indicative figure in our calculations.

Approximate CBR	Identification Procedure
Less than 2	Easily penetrated with thumb
2 - 3	Moderate effort to penetrate with thumb
3 - 6	Indented with thumb
6 - 16	Indented with thumbnail
Over 16	Diffilcult to indent with thumbnail

Designing With Geosynthetics; Fifth Edition (Robert M. Koerner)

We would always recommend that at least six separate area's are tested across the whole of the proposed site area; and the worst result is the one used for any technical recommendations.

References:

Designing With Geosynthetics; Fifth Edition (Robert M. Koerner)
Published by Pearson Prentice Hall (ISBN 10:0-13-145415-3)

Source:

After Portland Cement Association and E.I. DuPont literature.

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