

# Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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## Methods of testing soils for engineering purposes

### Method 1.2.1: Sampling and preparation of soils—Disturbed samples—Standard method

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**1 SCOPE** This Standard outlines considerations and specifies procedures for taking disturbed samples of soils for engineering purposes such as earthworks and pavements, subdividing the samples and details for packing and forwarding them for examination and testing. In order to obtain appropriate representative samples, sampling is to be carried out by operators properly trained in the procedures and considerations given in this Standard and in general sampling techniques.

The Standard does not cover undisturbed sampling of soils or sampling soils for tests for environmental purposes.

Disturbed soil samples may be suitable for visual identification and for classification, chemical, density tests and strength tests on remoulded specimens.

The selection of sites from where samples are to be taken is not covered by this Standard. Random selection of sampling sites, when required, is covered by AS 1289.1.4.1 or 1.4.2.

**2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS** The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

**AS**

- 1141 Methods for sampling and testing aggregates
- 1141.3.1 Method 3.1: Sampling—Aggregates
- 1141.3.2 Method 3.2: Sampling—Rock spalls, boulders and drill core
- 1289 Methods of testing soils for engineering purposes
- 1289.1 Method 1: Preparation of disturbed soil samples for testing
- 1289.1.4.1 Method 1.4.1: Sampling and preparation of soils—Selection of sampling or test sites—Random number method
- 1289.1.4.2 Method 1.4.2: Sampling and preparation of soils—Selection of sampling or test sites—Stratified random number method
- 1289.5.4.1 Method 5.4.1: Soil compaction and density tests—Compaction control test—Dry density ratio, moisture variation and moisture ratio
- 1289.5.7.1 Method 5.7.1: Soil compaction and density tests—Compaction control test—Hilf density ratio and Hilf moisture variation (rapid method)
- 1289.6.3.1 Method 6.3.1: Soil strength and consolidation tests—Determination of the penetration resistance of a soil—Standard penetration method (SPT)

**3 DEFINITIONS** For the purpose of this Standard the definitions below apply.

**3.1 Sample**—the material to be forwarded for examination or testing.

**3.2 Sample-increment**—the amount of material taken directly from the conveyor, bin, truck, section of a stockpile or from material taken after quartering the soil from each layer or type of material present.

**3.3 Stockpile**—a heap or stack of material held in stock for future use.