

STRUCTURE describes units (peds) that separate at surfaces of weakness (e.g., 2msbk, 0m, 1 thin pl).

Grade

structureless	(0)	no aggregation
weak	(1)	barely observable
moderate	(2)	distinct peds
strong	(3)	durable peds



(abk)



(sbk)



(gr)

Size

very fine	(vf)
fine (thin)	(f)
medium	(m)
coarse (thick)	(c)
very coarse	(vc)

Granular, Platy**

< 1 mm
1-2
2-5
5-10
> 10

Angular, Subangular, Blocky

< 5 mm
5-10
10-20
20-50
> 50

Prismatic, Columnar

< 10 mm
10-20
20-50
50-100
> 100

**For platy structure, use "thin" for fine and "thick" for coarse.

Shape

platy	(pl)
prismatic	(pr)
--columnar	(cpr)
blocky	(bk)
--angular	(abk)
--subangular	(sbk)
granular	(gr)
no structure	
--single grain (0)	(sg)
--massive (0)	(m)

flat, plate-like
taller than wide
rounded tops
cubical
sharp edges
rounded edges
spherical



(pr)



(cpr)



(pl)



centimeters: 1 centimeter = 10 mm
1 decimeter = 10 cm

HORIZON

Use A, E, B, C and subscripts, or number 1, 2, 3...

DEPTH INTERVAL

Inches, decimal feet or centimeters (show units) from top to bottom of horizon.

COLOR (Munsell Notation) uses HUE, VALUE and CHROMA. For example, a gray color (10YR 5/1) has a hue of 10YR, a value of 5 and a chroma of 1.

Dominant color is the color which occupies the greatest volume of the horizon.

MOTTLING, spots of different color, is described by its color, quantity, size, contrast and shape.

Quantity

few	(f)	< 2%
common	(c)	2-20%
many	(m)	> 20%

Size

fine	(1)	< 5 mm
medium	(2)	5-15 mm
coarse	(3)	> 15 mm

Contrast

faint	(f)	difficult to see
distinct	(d)	readily seen
prominent	(p)	conspicuous

Shape (note in "remarks") streaks, bands, spots etc.

CONSISTENCE describes particle cohesion and adhesion. **Strength** describes the resistance to crushing a 25-mm cube or median-sized ped with 5 seconds of force.

Moist Soil

loose
very friable
friable
firm
very firm
extremely firm

Crushing Force

(ml)	(falls apart)
(mvfr)	very slight
(mfr)	slight
(mfi)	moderate
(mvfi)	strong
(mefi)	squeeze between hands

Dry Soil

loose
soft
slightly hard
hard
very hard

(dl)	(falls apart)
(ds)	very slight
(dsh)	slight-moderate
(dh)	strong
(dvh)	squeeze between hands
(deh)	under foot