



Two easy homemade ways to test soil pH - something fun to do with kids!

*NOTE: Using **distilled water** is important as any minerals in the water could interfere with the results.*

#1 – Test your garden soil pH with vinegar and baking soda

Collect 1 cup of soil from different parts of your garden, mix together, put 2 spoonfuls of this soil into separate containers.

Add 1/2 cup of vinegar to the soil. If it fizzes, you have alkaline soil, with a pH between 7 and 8.

If it doesn't fizz after doing the vinegar test, then add distilled water to the other container until 2 teaspoons of soil are muddy. Add 1/2 cup baking soda.

If it fizzes you have acidic soil, most likely with a pH between 5 and 6. If there is no reaction your soil is neutral.

#2 – Cabbage water pH test

Measure 2 cups of distilled water into a saucepan.

Cut up and add 1 cup of red cabbage. Simmer for 5 minutes.

Remove from heat and allow it to sit for up to 30 minutes.

Strain off the liquid – which will be purple/blue. This will have a neutral pH of 7.

To test: add 2 teaspoons of garden soil to a jar and a few inches of cabbage water. Stir and wait for 30 minutes. Check the colour. If it turns pink, your soil is acidic. If it is blue/green, your soil is alkaline.