



BSI Standards Publication

Geotechnical investigation and testing – Identification and classification of soil

Part 2: Principles for a classification (ISO 14688-2:2017)

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN ISO 14688-2:2018. It is identical to ISO 14688-2:2017. It supersedes BS EN ISO 14688-2:2004+A1:2013, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee B/526/3, Site investigation and ground testing.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

© The British Standards Institution 2018
Published by BSI Standards Limited 2018

ISBN 978 0 580 87599 1

ICS 93.020

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 March 2018.

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
------	---------------

EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN ISO 14688-2

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

February 2018

ICS 13.080.05; 93.020

Supersedes EN ISO 14688-2:2004

English Version

Geotechnical investigation and testing - Identification and classification of soil - Part 2: Principles for a classification (ISO 14688-2:2017)

Reconnaissance et essais géotechniques -
Identification et classification des sols - Partie 2:
Principes pour une classification (ISO 14688-2:2017)

Geotechnische Erkundung und Untersuchung -
Benennung, Beschreibung und Klassifizierung
von Boden - Teil 2: Grundlagen für
Bodenklassifizierungen (ISO 14688-2:2017)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 20 November 2017.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels

European foreword

This document (EN ISO 14688-2:2018) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 182 “Geotechnics” in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 341 “Geotechnical Investigation and Testing” the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by August 2018, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by August 2018.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN ISO 14688-2:2004.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 14688-2:2017 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 14688-2:2018 without any modification.

Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	2
4 Principles of soil classifications	4
4.1 General.....	4
4.2 Particle size fractions.....	6
4.3 Particle size distribution (grading).....	6
4.4 Plasticity.....	6
4.5 Organic content.....	7
4.6 Carbonate content.....	8
5 Other principles suitable for soil classification	8
5.1 General.....	8
5.2 Correlations of relative density terms for coarse soils.....	8
5.3 Undrained shear strength of fine soils.....	9
5.4 Sensitivity.....	9
5.5 Consistency index.....	9
5.6 Other parameters.....	10
Bibliography	11

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 182, *Geotechnics*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 14688-2:2004), which has been technically revised. It also incorporates the Amendment ISO 14688-2:2004/Amd 1:2013.

A list of all parts in the ISO 14688 series can be found on the ISO website.

Introduction

This document gives the means by which soils can be classified into groups of similar composition and geotechnical properties based on the results of field and laboratory tests with respect to their suitability for geotechnical engineering purposes.

Prior to classification, ISO 14688-1 gives details of the procedures that should be followed in the identification and description of soils.

Geotechnical investigation and testing – Identification and classification of soil —

Part 2: Principles for a classification (ISO 14688-2:2017)

1 Scope

This document specifies the basic principles for classification of those material characteristics most commonly used for soils for engineering purposes. It is intended to be read in conjunction with ISO 14688-1, which gives rules for the identification and description of soils. The relevant characteristics could vary and therefore, for particular projects or materials, more detailed subdivisions of the descriptive and classification terms could be appropriate. Due to differences in local geological conditions, practices to enhance relevant classification criteria are used.

The classification principles established in this document allow soils to be classified into groups of similar composition and geotechnical properties, based on the results of field and laboratory tests with respect to their suitability for geotechnical engineering purposes.

This document is applicable to natural soil *in situ*, natural soil reworked artificially and synthetic materials. A more detailed classification specific to use in earthworks is given in EN 16907-2.

NOTE 1 Identification and description of rocks are covered by ISO 14689. Identification and description of materials intermediate between soil and rock are carried out using the procedures in ISO 14688-1, this document and ISO 14689, as appropriate.

NOTE 2 The identification and classification of soil for pedological purposes, as well as in the framework of measurements for soil protection and for remediation of contaminated areas, is covered by ISO 25177.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 14688-1:2017, *Geotechnical investigation and testing — Identification and classification of soil — Part 1: Identification and description*

ISO 14689, *Geotechnical investigation and testing — Identification, description and classification of rock*

ISO 17892-1, *Geotechnical investigation and testing — Laboratory testing of soil — Part 1: Determination of water content*

ISO 17892-2, *Geotechnical investigation and testing — Laboratory testing of soil — Part 2: Determination of bulk density*

ISO 17892-3, *Geotechnical investigation and testing — Laboratory testing of soil — Part 3: Determination of particle density*

ISO 17892-4, *Geotechnical investigation and testing — Laboratory testing of soil — Part 4: Determination of particle size distribution*

ISO 17892-5, *Geotechnical investigation and testing — Laboratory testing of soil — Part 5: Incremental loading oedometer test*