

**STANDARD TEST METHOD**

**SIEVE ANALYSIS (WET)**

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**SCOPE:**

The "wet" technique only applies to solids that have the following properties:-

1. They must be practically insoluble in water.
2. They must not be affected by water, e.g. solids which swell when wet would be unsuitable.
3. They must remain unchanged by a reasonable application of heat, up to 110 C.

**APPARATUS:**

1. British standard sieves BS410 (200 mm diameter).
2. Octagon 200 sieve shaker.
3. Wet sieving adaptor kit.
4. Oven.
5. Balance accurate to 10 mg.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Nest the appropriate sieves together with the coarsest sieve uppermost grading down to the finest at the bottom, using one sieve "o" seal between each sieve. Place the stack on the wet sieving receiver.
2. Weigh out the specified amount of sample and put it on the top sieve.
3. Position the special wet sieving clamp plate on top of the uppermost sieve and place on the shaker.
4. Place the clamp plate on top of the sieves by loosening knobs on both clamp blocks. Position the clamp blocks so that the hooks can be engaged. Adjust position of clamp block so that the bottom edge of the clamp plate lies between the two red lines on the clamp block tubes. Tighten both handles firmly. Push down hand levers on both toggle clips simultaneously and ensure the sieves are properly clamped.

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**PROCEDURE (Continued):**

5. Turn on the water supply (pressure 3 kP/cm<sup>2</sup> (42 PSI) approx. 1.5 litres/min) and use sieve shaker in a similar manner to dry sieving.

Important: Turn off the water supply before attempting to remove sieves from shaker.

6. Dry the sieves and retained sample in an oven set at 105 °C for an hour.
7. Weigh the retained sample on a tared watchglass on a balance accurate to 10 mg.
8. Calculate as a percentage the material retained on each sieve and report as % + .... mesh.

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