

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I measure a slope?

You can measure a slope using a clinometer. Find clinometers in your local home improvement store. Alternatively, you can also get a virtual clinometer app on your phone.

If possible, get a clinometer that gives you the slope of your driveway in percent form. If your clinometer gives you the slope of your driveway in degrees and not in percent form, you can convert the slope by using this formula:

$$\text{Tan}(\text{angle in degrees}) * 100 = \text{_____ slope in percent}$$



A clinometer

How do I do a percolation test?

- 1 Dig a 2 ft deep hole (1 ft wide) using a digging bar, gloves, and a post hole digger.
- 2 Fill the hole to the top with water. Cover the hole for safety purposes. Do this several times to ensure the soil is saturated.
- 3 When the soil is saturated, fill the hole with water again. What time is it? Record the time when the hole is filled with water.
- 4 Check the hole regularly. Record what time it is when it is empty. How long did it take to drain?
- 5 Calculate the percolation rate:



Filling up a hole with water to a percolation test.

$$(\text{Number of minutes}) / (\text{Depth of hole in inches}) = \text{Percolation rate}$$