



Mud

Very fine, soft and often sticky surface when dust and earth mixes with water. Includes silt and clay and tidal areas around mangroves.



Sand

Made of finely divided rock, shell and minerals. From very fine sand (0.0625mm) up to 2mm in diameter, e.g., a grain of rice.



Gravel / pebble

Coarse and smooth rounded rock fragment sized between 2mm and 64mm. Fits in a small hand.



Cobbles

Smooth, rounded rocks larger between 64mm and 256mm. Cobble and rock rubble are in the same size range, but differ in shape and finish. Just larger than a standard soccer ball.



Rock rubble

Coarse rock fragments between 64mm and 256mm. Cobble and rock rubble are in the same size range, but differ in shape and finish. Just larger than a standard soccer ball.



Boulder

Large detached rock: anything larger than 256mm in diameter. School-ruler sized boulders up to house-sized.





Bedrock

Solid (consolidated) rock ground or shelf.



Shell

Whole shell and shell fragments over 2mm in diameter. (Smaller than 2mm would be classified as sand).



Artificial

Includes (but is not limited to) marina, boat ramp, wharf, marine farm, drilling platform, artificial reef.



Mixed substrate

If there is more than one substrate represented on your beach. If there is a large majority of one surface type, e.g., a few shells on a sandy beach, choose the dominant type as your surface.



Unknown

If you are unsure of the type of substrate of your beach.

