

Fill and layers: *Colour*

Use this guide in addition to the Munsell chart to describe the colour.

Note on the Munsell chart.

Everyone sees **colour** differently so attempts have been made by soil scientists to create a colour chart to compare soils against. The '**Munsell**' chart is often used by archaeologists, but even with such a chart different people match the same soil against different colours, so we must accept that in describing colour there is a certain amount of subjectivity (as with all recording).

When describing colour, use three terms

- **Predominant colour** e.g. red
- **Hue of the colour** e.g. yellowish
- **Darkness of the deposit** e.g. light

Giving in this case 'light yellowish red'.

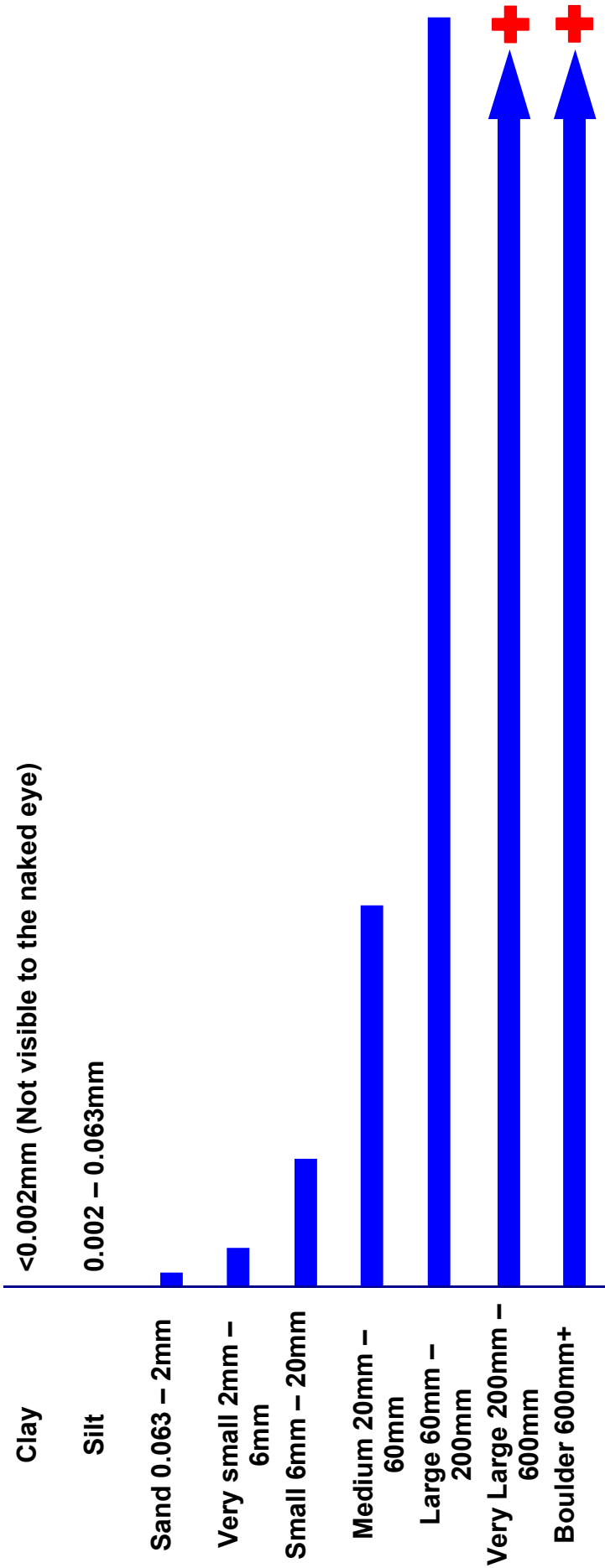
Always use 'real' basic colours such as red, blue, black, brown, grey and green.

Avoid grades of colour such as orange, cream, pink.

Avoid descriptive colours such as olive, rose and buff.

NB If you are colour blind (a common condition) get someone else to do the colour descriptions!

Fill and layers: *Size*



Particle and inclusion size. This diagram shows the size classification of deposit particles and inclusions. Use it to help you decide the size of inclusions and if over 10% of the deposit, the composition.