

SOAKAWAY TEST

Generally in accordance with BRE Digest 365:

1 Dig a trial Hole

- Excavate hole –
Depth typically 1.5 – 2.5m, approximately same as anticipated for full size soakaway
Width 0.6m (excavator bucket)
Length 1.0 – 3.0m, depending on ground and final depth
- Square off sides of hole as best as possible
- Measure and record pit size to confirm test pit dimensions, i.e. length (top and bottom), width and overall depth
- Place a piece of timber (batten or plank) over hole to assist with measuring water level

2 Fill the Hole With Water

- Fill trial hole with water – this needs to be done rapidly. Water needs to be flooded into excavation from a bowser or pumped in. Minimum water depth 1.0m.
- Measure down from top (from timber) to water level (ground level to water level, as filled)
- Record the time
- Re-measure and record time at, say, 5 minutes interval to start with if water is falling quickly
- If not, leave for, say, 15 minutes or 30 minutes depending on rate of fall of water
- Record depth and time at each measurement of depth to water level
- Continue recording until pit is empty

Repeat the test 3 times, allowing the trial hole to drain between tests

SOAKAWAY TEST **Site:**

Test No: **Date:**

Date:

LOCATION : Easting Northing Label

PIT DIMENSIONS:

Top: L = W =

Bottom: L = W =

Depth:

OBSERVED WATER LEVEL (AFTER FILLING):

[illegible]