

## pH Merck Strip Instructions

These instructions are written for use with Merck pH strips.

### ***Equipment***

pH Strips  
Bucket  
Wooden Peg

### ***Method***

1. Rinse a four litre container or bucket with the sample to be tested before filling.
2. Place the strip in the water suspended from a wooden clothes peg.
3. Leave strip to soak in the water sample for five minutes, but no more than ten minutes.
4. Remove strip from water sample and immediately colour match strip with chart on container.  
Read in direct sunlight.

### ***pH Paper Tips***

- pH must be between 0 and 14.  
Surface waters are normally between 6 and 8.5. Samples from drains may be higher than this.
- pH paper should be left in the sample for at least five minutes.
- pH papers are available that can measure values between 0 and 14. Papers supplied with the Merck kit are more sensitive and measure pH in the range 4 to 10.
- You can estimate pH values in between the stages shown on the colour matching chart. If unsure, you should not report values of greater accuracy than 0.5 units.
- You only need to record results to the closest 0.5 unit of pH.

## ***Checklist***

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