

## SOIL BEARING CAPACITY

**TABLE 1804.2  
ALLOWABLE FOUNDATION AND LATERAL PRESSURE**

Class of Materials	Allowable Foundation Pressure (psf) <sup>d</sup>	Lateral Bearing (psf/f below natural grade) <sup>d</sup>	Lateral Sliding	
			Coefficient of friction <sup>a</sup>	Resistance (psf) <sup>b</sup>
1. Crystalline bedrock	12,000	1,200	0.70	—
2. Sedimentary and foliated rock	4,000	400	0.35	—
3. Sandy gravel and/or gravel (GW and GP)	3,000	200	0.35	—
4. Sand, silty sand, clayey sand, silty gravel and clayey gravel (SW, SP, SM, SC, GM and GC)	2,000	150	0.25	—
5. Clay, sandy clay, silty clay, clayey silt, silt and sand silt (CL, ML, MH and CH)	1,500 <sup>c</sup>	100	—	130

For SI: 1 pound per square foot = 0.0479 kPa, 1 pound per square foot per foot = 0.157 kPa/m

- a. Coefficient to be multiplied by the dead load.
- b. Lateral sliding resistance value to be multiplied by the contact area, as limited by Section 1804.3.
- c. Where the building official determines that in-place soils with an allowable bearing capacity of less than 1,500 psf are likely to be present at the site, the allowable bearing capacity shall be determined by a soils investigation.
- d. An increase of one-third is permitted when using the alternate load combinations in Section 106.5.3.2 that include wind or earthquake loads.