



Preparing the foundations

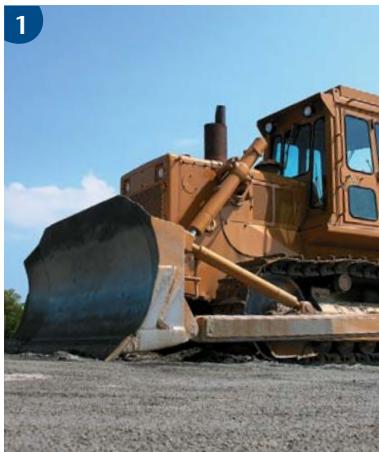
1 Preparing foundations

Put the sentences about preparing foundations into the correct order.

- A Excavate the foundations using earth-moving plant.
- B First find out what subsoil type and groundwater level the site has.
- C Build the foundations using materials such as concrete and gravel.
- D Timber the walls of the foundations to support them and stop the earth collapsing
- E Make the bottom of the foundation excavation firm so that the foundation material can be put on top.

2 Earth-moving plant

a) Listen to or read the three descriptions of earth-moving plant and write the letter of the correct description underneath the pictures.



This is the best piece of plant for excavating foundations. We use it to dig out earth and

- A place it to the side of the new foundations. It has a long, hydraulic arm which has a digging bucket at the end.

Once earth has been excavated from the foundations and piled beside them, we use this

- B piece of plant to push the earth away from the foundations. It has a very powerful engine and runs on caterpillar tracks instead of wheels.

- C We use this piece of plant to load earth onto lorries to be taken away from the building site. It runs on wheels and has a digging bucket at the front which can hold a lot of earth.

- b) Now write the English names for the plant under the pictures.

wheelloader • backhoe excavator • bulldozer

3 Subsoil types

a) Match the English words for different subsoil types to the Czech translations.

1 granite	rašelina	A	1 _____
2 chalk	křída	B	2 _____
3 sand	jíl/hlína	C	3 _____
4 clay	štěrk/kamenivo	D	4 _____
5 silt	žula/granit	E	5 _____
6 peat	písek	F	6 _____
7 gravel	usazenina/naplavenina/kal	G	7 _____

b) Each subsoil type has a different bearing capacity (*nosnost, únosnost*).

The type of foundation used for a building depends on the subsoil of the site.

Work with a partner.

Look at the types of subsoil above. Where could they go in this list?

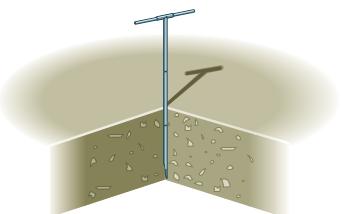
Subsoil type

- 1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

Bearing

Best bearing

Good bearing



More investigation into water content and firmness is needed to find the bearing capacity.

4 Plant for compacting the bottom of the foundations

Label the pictures of plants with their English and Czech names.

English

- explosive rammer
- walk-behind roller
- vibrating plate compactor
- vibrating rammer

Czech

- ručně vedený zhutňovací válec
- ručně vedený vibrační zhutňovač
- vibrační pěch
- vibrační deska pro zhutňování

