

# Conducting a Sieve Analysis: Helpful Tips

**Degradation**

Soft or brittle material can degrade during separation, leading to an increase in fines and an inaccurate result.

**Interval Times**

If degradation is observed, reduce sample size and/or shaker time intervals.

**Mesh Condition**

Frequently examine sieves for worn/damaged mesh or misshapen openings

**Tools**

Only use a soft brush or your fingers for dislodging trapped particles; tools or probes can damage the mesh.

**Transferring**

As material loss will negatively impact the results of this test, use extreme care when transferring material for weights.

**Moisture**

Samples need to be pre-dried at 110°C before testing.

**Shake Time**

If shake time is unknown, Remove a tray for weight. Return for add'l shaking of 1min.; reweigh. Difference should be <1%, if not, add time in 1 min. increments.