

ZEMLJA (PRST)* – earth vs. soil vs. dirt

<https://hinative.com/en-US/questions/1361>

Earth is a more general term and can refer to just about any kind of ground material, *dirt*, rocks, clay, as long as it is underfoot. **Soil** is a specific kind of earth that most plants grow in.

<https://www.naturespath.com/en-us/blog/difference-soil-dirt/>

Why do we garden in **soil**, yet when we wash it off our hands or out of our clothes, it is annoying **dirt**?

How can one item have two definitions, one positive and one negative? Soil provides food, trees, shrubs, and flowers, but dirt is a nuisance remove. Yet they are the same thing!

Soil is alive with living organisms such as worms, fungi, insects, bacteria, and organic matter. It supports life with its naturally occurring nutrients and minerals, making it a perfect planting medium. It is a complete and self-sustaining ecosystem.

When this magnificent living thing called soil leaves the garden on your hands or clothes, it gets displaced and is now defined as **dirt**. **Dirt** is dead. It has none of the minerals, nutrients, or living organisms found in soil. It is not an organized ecosystem.