

Heat mapping

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The earth has too much trapped heat and we need to find ways to cool things down. Plants are our natural coolers. We can work with them to cool our planet.

How heat mapping helps

Heat mapping measures surface temperature and it can be used to:

- **Compare different surface temperatures**, showing how much cooler planted areas are compared to bare soil or hard surfaces.
- **Identify hot spots**, the places where cooling is most needed and to plan climate cooling action.

How to heat map

You will need:

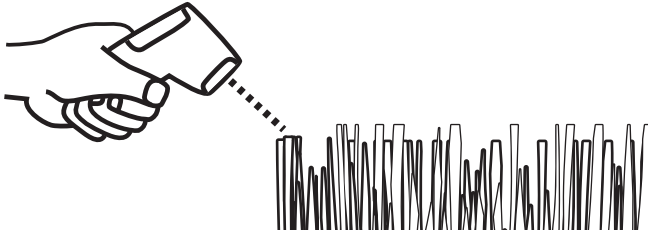
- Some sunshine to warm up the surfaces. You don't need strong sunlight, light cloud is okay.
- An infrared thermometer gun (costs about £10). More basic, cheaper thermometers can still give you an idea.
- A means of jotting down your findings, eg notebook, audio recorder, site map or record sheet.

How to measure and record

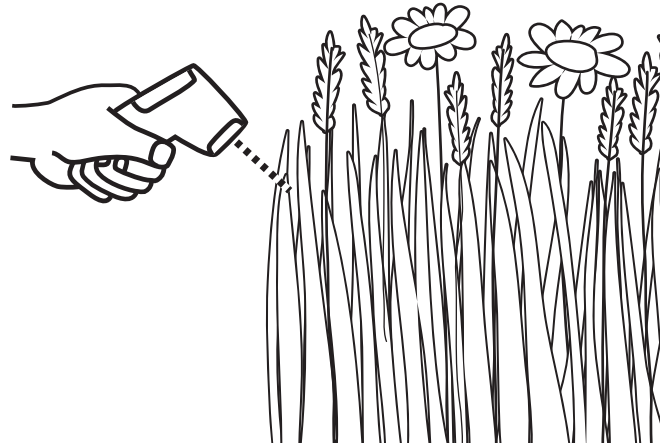
- Point the thermometer just above the surface and take and record your reading.
- Repeat 2-3 times at each location to check the results are consistent.
- Move around the space, measuring different surfaces and locations. Make sure you measure surfaces that have been in the sun rather than those that have been in the shade all day.
- For hotspot mapping, draw a site map and mark the findings so you can identify the areas with the highest temperatures.



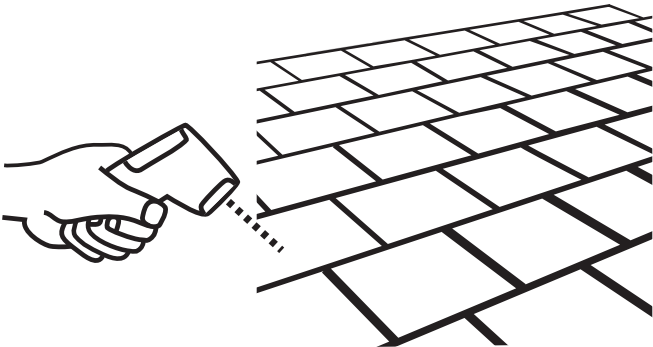
Surface temperature record sheet



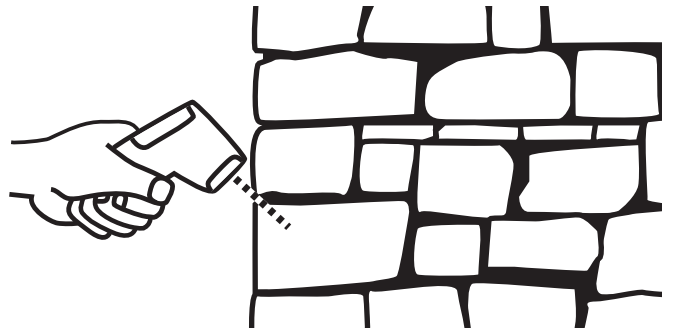
Short grass^oC



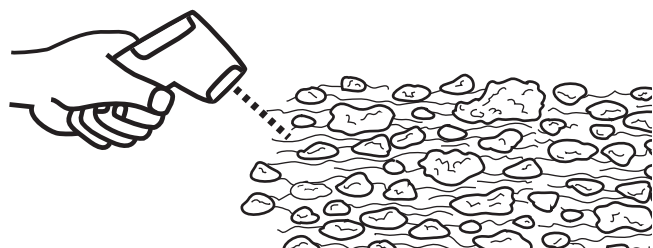
Long grass^oC



Hard surface^oC



Wall^oC



Bare soil^oC



Plants^oC

Top tips for cooling

- Cover bare soil with mulch or plants to keep it cool and moist.
- Grow more plants. The more you have, the more climate action they take.
- Grow plants in new places such as containers, walls and fences.
- Grow areas of longer grass and flowers, they will shade, cool and increase biodiversity.
- Protect and plant trees, they provide shade and capture rain and carbon.
- Even small areas of greenery will make a difference. Every metre counts for natural climate repair.

Scan the QR code to find out more and get involved.



Sensory Trust



sensorytrust.org.uk/projects/collective-climate-repair

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