

Measuring coral health using virtual reef poster

CORALWATCH Virtual Reef

This virtual reef shows you different coral shapes and the difference between bleached and healthy corals. You can use the Coral Health Chart to measure the health of these corals.

CORAL HEALTH CHART
The Coral Health Chart is based on the actual colours of bleached and healthy corals. Each square on the Chart corresponds to the concentrations of symbiotic algae which live in the coral tissue.

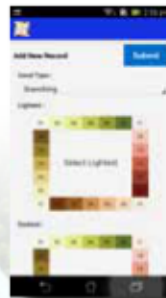
INSTRUCTIONS
For each coral, use the Coral Health Chart to record:
• darkest and lightest colour scores
• coral type
plate (PL) soft (SO) boulder (BO) branching (BR)

WWW.CORALWATCH.ORG
Visit our website to see worldwide data for reefs and compare coral health scores over time.

Instructions

- Following the instructions on the back of the Coral Health Chart, match the coral colours on the virtual reef poster with the colour scores on the chart.
- Record your colour scores and coral types on a data sheet that you can download from www.coralwatch.org.

You can also download the CoralWatch 'data entry' mobile phone app and enter your data in **demo mode**.



DATA SHEET

Group name: _____ Your name: _____

Email address: _____

Participation field: dive centre / scientist / environmental / school or university / tourist

Country of reef: _____ Reef name: _____

GPS if possible: _____ Depth: _____ m / feet Sea temp: _____ °C

Date of survey: _____ / _____ / _____ Time collected: (i.e. 14:00 or 3pm) _____

Weather: sunny / cloudy / raining Your activity: reef walking / snorkelling / diving

*Please note: data will not be accepted on the website if any of these fields are left blank

Coral Number	Colour Code L=Lightest D=Darkest		Coral Type Br=Branching Pl=Plate Bo=Boulder So=Soft			
	L: D2	D: E5	Br	Bo	Pl	So
example 1	L: D2	D: E5	Br	Bo	Pl	So
2	L: D:	D: D:	Br	Bo	Pl	So
3	L: D:	D: D:	Br	Bo	Pl	So
4	L: D:	D: D:	Br	Bo	Pl	So
5	L: D:	D: D:	Br	Bo	Pl	So
6	L: D:	D: D:	Br	Bo	Pl	So
7	L: D:	D: D:	Br	Bo	Pl	So
8	L: D:	D: D:	Br	Bo	Pl	So
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18	L: D:	D: D:	Br	Bo	Pl	So
19	L: D:	D: D:	Br	Bo	Pl	So
20	L: D:	D: D:	Br	Bo	Pl	So

Check out these resources...

Reid, C., Marshall, J., Logan, D., Kleins, D. (2012) *Coral Reefs and Climate Change: the guide for education and awareness*. CoralWatch, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia.

Siebeck, U.E., Marshall, N.J., Kluter, A. and Hoegh-Guldberg, O. (2006) *Coral Reefs 25(9)* 453-460

Any other relevant information, e.g. average diving depth, species of coral, pollution, long term weather such as drought, flood, heat-waves.