

Sample submission for radiocarbon dating

A minimum of 100 μg of graphitic carbon is required for analysis. The amount of untreated sample required to obtain this minimum size depends on the type of material being studied and the condition/preservation of the sample. Whenever possible the ideal, rather than minimum, sample size should be submitted. If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact our scientific staff concerning your samples.

Material	Min*, mg	Ideal, mg
Charcoal & wood	~0.2	2-5
plant & insect macrofossils	~0.2	5-10
pollen (ready-to-analyze only)	~0.1	1-3
sediment, organic-rich	~10	~100
sediment, organic-poor	~100	~1000
bone and tooth, well-preserved	~100	500-1000
bone and tooth, poorly preserved	300	3000-5000
bone and tooth, charred	~100	500-1000
bone, cremated or calcined	~200	500-1000
textile	~1	5-10
paper, canvas	~1	5-10
cast iron	5-10	100-200
pottery	50-100	1000-2000
shell, forminifera, coral	~1	10-20
stalactite, stalagmite	2-3	20-50
soil carbonates	20-30	50-100
water DIC	100 mL	1000 mL
water DOC	inquire	
mortar	inquire	

*Contact us to discuss smaller sample sizes.