

Installation Instructions

Engineered wood fiber also known as Playground Material

Installation Guide

Hardwood Mulch Corp recommends using the service of a landscape architect, familiar with the local soil to evaluate the area for proper drainage. To prolong the life of the Playground Material, a drainage system is recommended. However we cannot dictate how extensive your drainage system should be to be effective.

Your installer should examine the site, specification, and carefully check the dimensions of your playground and equipment before starting work. We assume no responsibility for this.

Installation: In Ground / Above Ground

- Excavate the area 12 inches (recommended 12 inch depth for certification to apply) with a grade that ensures proper drainage. The most effective drainage may be to carry all water outside of the play area.
- Install retaining border.
- The area should be well compacted and accurately graded.
- Install the Playground Material to the proper depth (12 inches minimum). The playground Material is delivered in bulk form. Material can be staged in one location and moved into the play area.
- A bobcat or a small front-end loader may be used to spread surfacing, however it will also be necessary to spread manually. Please note the surfacing will be several inches above grade until it is compacted. The material needs to be compacted in order to be accessible to all. This may be achieved by using a compactor in the initial installation
- Level the Playground material by hand raking the surface areas. After two weeks of active use, the surface must be raked again.

- Wetting down the initial load will help with compaction. **WARNING: Failure to maintain Playground Material at the initial installation depth (12 inches) may result in an injury.**

The installation instructions must be followed in order to validate Hardwood Mulch Corp limited warranty. Replacement and replenishing material must be provided by Hardwood Mulch Corp to continue validation.

Limited Warranty warrants our playground surfacing material meets with the Playground Surfacing Guidelines of the U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission when tested within the laboratory temperature guidelines as determined by the ASTM standard F1292 under normal use.

Hardwood Mulch Corporations Playground Material is tested through TUV SUD America, Incorporated in compliance with ASTM F1292 for this type of surfacing material.

Hardwood Mulch Corporation is a member of IPEMA, the International Play Equipment Manufacturers Association whose mission is to provide creative, fun and safe play environments of children. To verify product certification, visit www.ipema.org

Maintenance Guidelines

Playground Material required maintenance to ensure surfacing levels never drop below the proper recommended level of 12 inches. The proper level of Playground material must be maintained in order to ensure the product does what it is designed to do and ensure warranty validation. The perimeter of the playground should provided adequate containment and the playground area should have the proper drainage for the Playground Material, as recommended by your landscape architect.

- Daily visual inspection should be performed to check for foreign debris such as rocks, broken glass and other trash. These items must to be removed.
- Daily visual inspection should be performed to check for Playground Material depth. A depth of 12 inches must be maintained for warranty validation. Redistribute and/or top off the Playground Material as needed. Regular topping off should be performed every 1 to 3 years depending on use of playground.
- High impact areas may need more frequent inspections and redistribution.
- Daily visual inspection of drainage is needed to maintain proper drainage. Check for blockage by foreign debris and/or ice. Without proper drainage ice will form and the Playground Material will no longer function as a protective surface. The play area should be closed down for use and not

reopened until temperatures rise above freezing. WARNING: Life threatening injuries may occur when a child falls onto the frozen surface.

- Due to the wind, birds, other animals, and normal tracking weed growth may occur. If this occurs hand pulling of weeds maybe necessary and/or an environmentally approved weed killer maybe used (check with product manufacture for approved use around children)

WARNING: Incorrect installation, lack of maintenance, improper use with other material not designed for Playground Material and/or mixing material could result in serious injury or death.

WARNING: No Engineered Wood fiber or Playground Material can prevent all accidents or injuries