

## Care & Maintenance Information

### Poured In Place Safety Surfacing

The playground surfacing system installed at your facility is formulated to withstand all weather conditions and the test of time; however, the surface will require regular maintenance on your part.

A properly installed and maintained PIP surface would last you 10 years or more. Therefore, it's critical to be aware of how to maintain poured-in-place rubber surfaces.

#### Conduct an Annual Inspection

Multiple factors (climatic, foot traffic, and potential vandalism) influence the longevity of a **poured-in-place rubber flooring**. Hence, besides granulation, there are other signs of damage you should look out for. These may compromise the integrity and safety of the flooring in the long term.

An annual inspection by a certified professional can help keep the area in top condition, allowing you to address minor issues before it's too late. The schedule for routine cleaning depends upon many factors including the following:

- How often is it being used
- The volume of foot traffic
- Climatic factors
- Potential for vandalism

It is important that any tear, rip or unusual wear be reported so that the appropriate repairs can be made before the area becomes larger.

#### The Following General Guidelines Will Keep Your New Surfacing System in Top Condition:

- Do not wash the surface for at least five days after installation.
- Keep the surface clean of sand and gritty soils that will prematurely abrade the surface. A regular blowing is likely all that will be needed. Sand on the playground surface is destructive and will reduce its life expectancy.
- DO NOT use any cleaning agent that contains a petroleum-based solvent, for example, acetone, diesel fuel, kerosene, MEK, paint thinner and similar. Petrol based agents will weaken or dissolve the surface.
- Regular cleaning can be accomplished with a garden hose, nylon push broom and mild detergent (with or without germicide). A non-sudsing detergent should be used, such as SIMPLE GREEN or similar. Resist the urge to power-wash the surface as it may dislodge the EPDM granules, degrade the polyurethane binder, and weaken the surface.
- **Graffiti** can be removed by scrubbing the area with a soft brush and mild detergent. Alternatively, use medium-grade sandpaper to remove the paint but take care not to damage the surface.
- **Do Not Use** abrasive brushes or pads, steel wool or solvents to clean the surfacing. DO NOT USE high speed buffing or cleaning equipment. DO NOT USE WAX OF ANY KIND! Make sure that any mild detergent that is used contains no wax or paraffin.
- Chewing gum stuck to the surface can be removed by applying dry ice. Once the gum freezes, just chip it off.

## Keep It Safe from Sharp Objects

Poured-in-place rubber flooring can be damaged by objects with sharp edges like metal chairs, ladders, metal bristle brooms, and shovels among others. These surfaces are designed to withstand shocks from high-intensity activities and protect kids and seniors from serious injuries following a fall. Being soft and springy, anything with sharp edges, including pencil-heeled shoes, can damage the surface.

## Know When to Involve an Expert

If you follow all the guidelines, cleaning and maintaining poured-in-place rubber flooring is easy. However, some issues need immediate attention from a professional, else it could turn into a bigger and more expensive repair job. Get in touch with a professional when you see small holes, granulation, patches or blemishes, or any other signs of wear or damage on the rubber surface.

**Poured-in-place rubber flooring offers a seamless, safe, and aesthetically pleasing surface that's appropriate for almost every indoor or outdoor application. However, like any other surface, timely maintenance of PIP surfaces is paramount.**

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