

A Roadmap for the Playground Planning Process

Getting Started

The Budget

Factors to Consider



- Overall size of the play space
- Number of children who will use the space
- Type of surfacing you will select
- Equipment and surfacing installation costs

The Children

Factors to Consider



- Identify primary users of the play space
- Plan for age appropriate equipment
- Incorporate a variety of play elements
- Implement inclusive principles in your design

The Site

Factors to Consider



- Topography - Level grade will save time and money
- Soil and drainage conditions
- Utilities - Identify the location of those seen and unseen
- Circulation - Maximize visibility with the appropriate use zone

Installation

Factors to Consider



\$\$\$ Professional Installation: Factory Certified Installers manage entire process

\$\$ Supervised Installation: Volunteers participate under supervision of Factory Certified Installers

\$ Customer Installation: Volunteers organize and fully participate in installation

Which Surfacing is Best?



| | | Site Preparation Requirements | Maintenance Requirements | Expected Longevity | *Meets Accessibility | Cost |
|-----------------------------|------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Bonded Rubber | | ■ | ■ | □ | YES | \$\$ Initial \$\$\$ Lifetime |
| Engineered Wood Fiber (EWF) | | □ | ■ | □ | YES | \$ Initial \$\$\$ Lifetime |
| Poured in Place (PIP) | EPDM | ■ | □ | ■ | YES | \$\$\$ Initial \$ Lifetime |
| | TPV | ■ | □ | ■ | YES | \$\$\$ Initial \$ Lifetime |
| Shredded Rubber | | □ | ■ | ■ | YES | \$\$ Initial \$\$\$ Lifetime |
| Tiles | | ■ | ■ | ■ | YES | \$\$\$ Initial \$ Lifetime |
| Turf | | ■ | ■ | ■ | YES | \$\$\$ Initial \$ Lifetime |

□ Low

\$ Low Cost

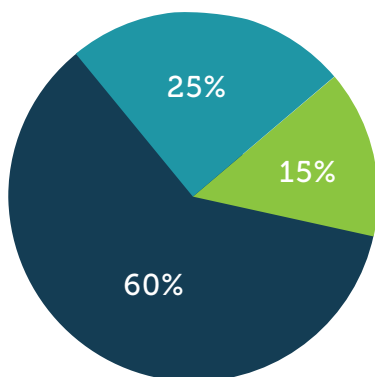
■ Moderate

\$\$ Moderate Cost

■ High

\$\$\$ High Cost

*Manufacturers must submit their surfaces for testing. Some variation may occur. Please check with your manufacturer for product certification.



Example of Playground Funding Allocation

- Equipment
- Surfacing (EWF)
- Installation

The budget percentages listed are for illustrative purposes only and to visually address the main considerations when planning a playground project. Surfacing percentage is based using Engineered Wood Fiber.