



FLEXIPLAY™... GETTING TECHNICAL

ONGOING MAINTENANCE OF FLEXIPLAY®

Flexiplay™ surfacing is largely maintenance free.

Having been rigorously tested to BSEN1177:2008 and BS7188:1998 confirmation of compliance with the standards will be provided in your handover documentation with no need for any further on site BSEN testing to be undertaken.

Where Flexiplay™ is laid under over-hanging trees it is recommended that branches are cut back to prevent sap from affecting the performance of your surface.

General sweeping and hosing down will remove leaves, grass clippings and rubbish whilst a pressure washer can be used to remove more stubborn grime build ups. Flexiplay™ is a porous system and where there is likely to be mildew or sap it's important to remove it immediately to ensure that your surface retains its slip resistance and other key performance properties. An application of weedkiller followed by pressure washing is the recommended cleaning method in these circumstances.

An application of salt can be spread to the surface to de-ice any frost to allow all weather play in the winter. A cold water pressure wash can then be used to remove the salt residues when temperatures warm up.

CONSTRUCTION OF FLEXIPLAY™

Flexiplay™ is constructed using 2 layers - the base layer is mixed on site using specially graded recycled rubber granules and binder and the top layer is then constructed from EPDM granules in a variety of colours, again mixed with binder.

The thicknesses of Flexiplay™ laid will be determined by the Critical Fall Height of your play equipment. A single layer of 20mm thick EPDM Flexiplay™ can be laid directly onto an existing tarmac or concrete base for any play equipment less than 0.7m in fall height, or indeed where there is no static play equipment like a cycle track.

Any thickness from 40mm up to 130mm of Flexiplay™ can either be laid onto an existing tarmac or concrete surface, or onto newly prepared substructures.

SUBSTRUCTURES FOR FLEXIPLAY®

Flush Mounted Flexiplay™ - allows for a continuously level surface, regardless of the varying thicknesses of Flexiplay™ laid. It's not uncommon to have a surface requiring 40mm

thick Flexiplay™ in one area of the play space and 100mm thick in another, to allow for the varying Critical Fall Heights of your play equipment. Some clients prefer to have a continuously level finish of Flexiplay™ which will necessitate full substructures, excavating different depths to accommodate the varying thicknesses of Flexiplay™.

In this instance the existing surface is excavated and materials either reformed to allow for mounding, or removed from site. Excavation is recommended at 100mm plus the thickness of the Flexiplay™. MOT Type 1 stone is then imported and compacted to the area, to allow a minimum of 100mm thickness of compacted free draining substructures. It is important to note that the MOT Type 1 stone must not exceed 6mm deviations over a 3m straight edge. The edgings can vary from pcc, tegula cobbles, treated timbers or block paving. Flexiplay™ is then laid at the recommended thicknesses to achieve your Critical Fall Heights from 40mm thick up to 130mm, giving a flush mounted finish.

Surface Mounted Flexiplay™ - where the existing surface is sound tarmac or concrete, this can provide a perfectly acceptable substructure for Flexiplay™ with minimal substructure preparation and costs.

In this instance drainage holes will need to be punctured into the existing surface to allow free draining.. An edging will be required to allow Flexiplay™ to adjoin your existing surface without a trip edge and providing a good "key" for the new Flexiplay™. The edging can be simply a cut-and-chase (only where the existing tarmac is in excellent condition), or can be pcc edgings, tegula cobbles or block paving, laid flush into the existing tarmac, ready to receive your new Flexiplay™ system.

Flexiplay™ will be laid to ramp-up from the existing finished surface to the required thickness to achieve your Critical Fall Height.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Method Statements, Risk Assessments and Material Safety Data Sheets and COSHH Assessments are all available and will be provided to support our schemes within the handover documentation or at your request. For any further information required please contact the Business Development Team.

TESTS AND CERTIFICATION TO BS7188:1998 AND BSEN1177:2008

Testing and certification has been gained in accordance with the recommendations set out in the British and European Standards in the following areas:

a. Critical Fall Heights

Well known tests which assess the critical height of fall for the varying thicknesses of Flexiplay™. Colour samples, black samples and colour fleck samples in 10 thicknesses have been tested with the following results:

20mm - 0.7m	90mm - 2.3m
40mm - 1.2m	100mm - 2.4m
50mm - 1.4m	110mm - 2.6m
60mm - 1.6m	120mm - 2.8m
70mm - 1.8m	130mm - 3.1m
80mm - 2.1m	

b. Slip Resistance

An important test which confirms that Flexiplay™ exceeds the minimum criteria for slip resistance when the surface is both dry and wet.

c. Resistance to Indentation

Consistent measures in resistance to indentation are recorded demonstrating a robust surface withstanding regular local point loadings.

d. Ease of Ignition

A LOW result in ease of ignition has been assessed providing peace of mind for high vandal areas.

e. Tensile Tests

These tests demonstrate the longevity of Flexiplay™ as the strength and cohesion of the laid surface is measured with excellent results.

f. Water Permeability

Whilst not a test required by the BSEN, this is a useful measure to demonstrate the porosity of the wet pour and is especially requested by Architects and Planners when considering drainage on site where the porosity of the surface is critical, especially in planning applications.

g. Resistance to Abrasive Wear

A critical test to establish the wear and tear or more specifically the loss of material through abrasion over a period of time. Flexiplay™ records excellent results in the wear index vs ratio - clear evidence of a quality surface which will have a long life expectancy.

For copies of test reports and certificates please contact a member of the Business Development Team.