



Safety and Maintenance

Thank you for selecting Forpark Australia equipment for your playground.

As a quality-assured company, we comply with the following standards for play equipment as a minimum, to ensure the safety of your children.

- AS 4685, Playground equipment (Safety requirements and test methods)
- AS 4422:2016 Playground surfacing – Specifications, requirements and test method
- AS 4685:2017 Playgrounds and playground equipment
 - Part 0: Development, installation, inspection, maintenance and operation

To ensure that your equipment remains in a safe condition and looks its best we recommend that you establish a schedule of safety and maintenance inspections and record the details of your inspections in a logbook. This way any minor repairs are done as soon as they are required, and your equipment will remain in safe condition and look as good as new. In the event of an accident occurring on your play equipment, your records of these inspections are proof that your 'duty of care' has been maintained.

We recommend that your play equipment be inspected with varying degrees of detail on a frequency basis as outlined on the following pages.

Any spare parts that may be required for your play equipment will be available through your local Forpark Australia branch where our sales staff will help you with any queries you may have regarding your equipment.

Routine Visual Inspection

Frequency

At least weekly. Daily inspections may be required where loose fill surfacing is used or in cases where the equipment is subject to heavy use or vandalism.

Surfacing

- Check that the softfall surfacing area is free of debris and contamination.
- Check that displacement of your loose-fill surfacing material has not resulted in areas becoming shallower than the recommended depth, particularly below items of equipment where falls are likely. Such areas should be levelled or filled to ensure that the recommended depth is maintained.

Equipment

- Check for vandalism and any damaged or missing parts. In the event of any damage or missing parts, isolate the play equipment until repairs have been carried out.

Operational Inspection

Frequency

Every one (1) to three (3) months, depending on the level of use. Equipment subject to heavy use or vandalism may need to be inspected more frequently. Any problems identified should be addressed on a priority basis taking into account any safety implications.

Surfacing & Surrounds

- Check that the softfall surfacing area is free of debris and contamination.
- Check that a loose fill softfall surfacing is at the recommended depth, and top up if necessary.
- Check that a synthetic surface is in good condition and securely in place to provide impact absorption.
- Check that any softfall surfacing borders are secure in the ground, do not constitute trip points, and have no rough or sharp edges.
- Check the area for overgrown bushes or hazards that may have intruded into the play area over time.

Equipment

- Check all fasteners and tighten and replace any that are missing.
- Check that all uprights and components are secure in the ground and that no footings are showing through the soft-fall.
- Check steel play equipment for rust or corrosion. (All metal play equipment will show some signs of breakdown over time, and this may be exacerbated by a marine environment.) Replace any badly corroded parts.
- Check timber equipment for splintering and warping and coat with Sikken's Cetol HLSe Mahogany if required. Replace any damaged items.
- Check all moving parts for excessive wear, and replace any worn items.
- Check all chain links for wear and replace any damaged items.
- Check for any bending or cracking of steel components and replace them where necessary.
- Check all paintwork, and touch up any areas that are worn or chipped.
- Large rope net structures with tensioning aids (e.g. turn buckles) need to be checked for sufficient tension and re-tensioned if necessary.
- In highly corrosive environments it is strongly recommended that all equipment is regularly washed with clean water to prevent any build-up of rust-causing minerals. This is particularly important where the equipment is positioned under a permanent shade structure and cannot be naturally washed by rain.
- Check for any grease points and apply Molycoat Long Term grease to all grease nipples.

Comprehensive Inspection

Frequency

Annually - On a yearly basis it is advisable to have your equipment checked by someone who is qualified in playground equipment maintenance, or by an engineer.

Surfacing & Equipment

- In addition to a detailed inspection of all areas covered in an "Operational Inspection", the following checks should be made.
- Check the structural integrity of equipment subject to corrosion or rotting.
- Check for any changes in the safety of the equipment resulting from repairs made, or added or replaced components.