



**Eco Wood Solutions**  
***PlayZone* Engineered Wood Fiber**  
**Playground Safety Surfacing Installation Instructions**

**Overview:**

The Consumer Product Safety Commission Publication #325 presents the most uniformly accepted standards for playground safety surfacing installation, and we recommend that customers familiarize themselves with its guidelines on all aspects of playground safety.

PlayZone, our engineered wood fiber playground safety surfacing is a pure, natural wood product made from pine and oak, which is specifically manufactured for playground use.

Do not mix or substitute other wood mulch products with the playground surfacing. Other products do not provide the impact attenuation necessary for playground usage.

**How do I select a proper playground space?**

- Ensure the location has proper drainage.
- Away from fences, trees, walls, or other potential hazards.
- Please read the Fall Zone instructions for each piece of equipment.

**How do I prepare my playground area?**

- Remove all vegetation, rocks, roots, and other protrusions to bare soil.
- Grade and level so that the area drains consistently and quickly after rain.
- Do not use herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, or any other chemicals.
- Avoid using land that has been treated with chemicals in the past.

**How much mulch do I need? And deep should it be?**

- The Federally recommended compact depth of wood fiber surfacing is 12”.
- Maximum practical impact attenuation is achieved with 12” compacted depth of material.
- This is also referred to as 15” straight (non-compacted) depth.
- To use our mulch calculator visit our website, [www.ecowoodsolutions.com](http://www.ecowoodsolutions.com).
  - Click Products Tab.
  - Click the Playzone Certified Wood Fiber Tab.
  - Scroll down and it should be located above the IPEMA certifications.
  - Enter your dimensions to calculate the volume.

- To schedule a professional measure call at 405.360.7300 or send us an email at [info@ecowoodsolutions.com](mailto:info@ecowoodsolutions.com).

## **What materials are needed to install playground surfacing?**

### **Borders**

- Wood fiber material should be contained within borders.
- Borders need to meet the safety standards designated by the Consumer Product Safety Commission.
- Railroad ties are not acceptable borders.
- A professional playground installer can guide the consumer to purchase of proper border materials.
- A proper border helps keep the wood fiber at its fall safe depth.

### **Geotextile**

- We recommend laying your wood fiber on top of geotextile fabric to help provide a “weed barrier”, improve drainage, and help maintain the longevity of the wood fiber.
- We provide geotextile fabric as a courtesy to our customers who wish to use it in the design of their playground, however we do not sell it separately.
- Geotextile is installed by laying it to overlap at the edges of the border creating a shallow bowl to contain the engineered wood fiber.
- Geotextile is usually sold by the full roll or by square foot and may be purchased together with your order.

### **Do's**

- Spread playground surfacing evenly into play area with shovels and rakes.
- Spread the material to a uniform thickness, making sure there are no thin, shallow places lacking in wood fiber.

### **Don'ts**

- We do not recommend placing playground surfacing over any type of asphalt or pavement.
- Use only clean chemical free and grease free tools and wheelbarrows.
- Do not use any pesticides, herbicides, or fungicides on the wood fiber, except under the care of a licensed, bonded, professional exterminator or horticulturalist who is fully aware that this is a play area used by children.
- We do not endorse the use of any chemicals whatsoever on our wood mulch.

## **How do I maintain my play space?**

### **Weekly Inspections**

- Ensure the fall zone depth is at a minimum of 12” as constant play can cause the wood fiber to shift.
- Remove any foreign objects from play area.

## **“Top Off”**

- Depending on climate and usage, material may need to be topped off with fresh playground surfacing.
- We recommend scheduling a professional measurement with us every 6 to 12 months to ensure your wood fiber is at the federally recommended depth of 12”.
- Depending on the climate and drainage there may be some circumstances when the material is frequently waterlogged and may require a full replacement.

## **How do I keep a clean and contaminant free play space?**

- Keep all pets and stray animals out of the playground. Discard any playground material that has been in proximity to animal feces and or urine, as it may pose a health hazard.
- Soft drinks spills or food can attract ants. Discard any playground mulch with soft drink residue or food contamination.
- Broken glass, small toys, sticks, rocks, etc. can all be potentially dangerous if buried into the mulch.
- If trees overshadow the play area be aware and remove any nuts or branches
- Any sort of grease, motor oil, or other automotive-type chemical presents a significant hazard, requiring the complete removal and replacement of any material in contact with it.

## **Contact Us:**

We are here to assist you with any questions you may have regarding the proper installation, usage, and maintenance of our engineered wood fiber playground safety surfacing.



**[www.ecowoodsolutions.com](http://www.ecowoodsolutions.com)**

**405.360.7300**

**[info@ecowoodsolutions.com](mailto:info@ecowoodsolutions.com)**