

PLAN YOUR HOME PLAYGROUND

What you need to know to make your home playground safer



Play structure image courtesy: Swing-N-Slide/PlayCore

SOFT SURFACING

Loose-fill materials like sand, pea gravel, shredded bark mulch, wood chip nuggets and rubber mulch are acceptable to put under home playground equipment. Many gardening centres and hardware stores carry these products and can help you calculate how much surfacing material you'll need.



SAFER PLAYGROUNDS FOR TODDLERS

Make sure your play equipment is recommended for outdoor use. For children under 5 years of age, choose equipment that is not over 5' high.

Surfacing: should be at least 6" deep and extend 3' from all sides of the play structure.

Example: If the base of your play structure is 5' x 6', you will need to cover an area of 11' x 12' with surfacing material (3' beyond each side of the structure). You would need 2.5 cubic yards of surfacing material.



SAFER PLAYGROUNDS FOR OLDER CHILDREN

Play equipment higher than 5' should have barriers or guard rails to prevent falls.

Surfacing: should be 12" deep and extend 6' from all sides of the play structure.

Example: If you have a swing set that measures 10' x 6', you will need to cover an area of 22' x 18' with surfacing material (6' beyond each side of the structure). This would require 15 cubic yards of surfacing material.

