

# Playground Inspection Checklist

## Visual Inspection - Weekly

Routine visual inspection enables the identification of obvious hazards that can result from vandalism, use or weather conditions. Visual inspection should be carried out at weekly intervals or daily if equipment is subject to heavy vandalism or heavy use.

Check for the following:

- Vandalism.
- Condition of surface finishes.
- Foreign objects.
- Exposed foundations.
- Sharp edges.
- Missing parts and bolt covers.
- Excessive wear of moving parts.
- Tightness of nuts and bolts/fixings.
- Check surfacing especially loose-fill areas, for depth, correct free space areas and any other foreign objects.
- Check all bolt caps and covers are in place.
- Check all pins are located correctly.
- Check ropes for damage e.g. fraying.

N.B. Spare parts, accessories and touch up paint are available from the manufacturer/supplier.



# Playground Inspection Checklist

## Operational Inspection - Every 4-6 weeks

This should be carried out every four to six weeks and is an inspection aimed at the stability and operation of equipment. Prior to assessing the equipment the condition of the ground needs to be checked. If the ground is prone to retaining water or flooding then extra attention needs to be taken when assessing for rotting and decay at ground level.

Check for the following:

In addition to the checks carried out during the visual inspection the following additions checks must be carried out.

- Assess the structural integrity of the equipment paying attention to the welds, rungs, steps, timber condition etc.
- Check all bolts are tight and all plastic caps are in place.
- Check timber for signs of rotting, pay particular attention at ground surface level. Using a sharp probe or long screwdriver apply pressure at or just below ground/surface level around the full circumference of the timber post. Check for signs of any softening or if the probe enters the timber surface with minimal resistance.
- If any softening is present or any posts are loose in their foundations you may deem it appropriate to close off the affected play equipment/area and contact your playground supplier/installer.

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# Playground Inspection Checklist

## Operational Inspection - Every 4-6 weeks *continued*

- Check steel for corrosion, pay particular attention at ground/surface level.
  - Ensure platforms are free from trip hazards and protruding bolts.
  - Check equipment mechanisms and moving components have no potential contact or crush points with the user.
  - Check chains, bolts, D-shackles, swing bearings, seats, cables, trolley mechanism etc for excessive wear and replace if necessary.
  - Check swings are tightly bolted up and free from vandalism.
  - Check swings moves freely on swing mechanism.
  - Check runway trolley mechanism and brake are operating correctly.
  - Check runway brake springs are operating correctly.
  - Check any ropes or cables are secure and not frayed.
- Pay particular attention to ropes with heavy footfall.
- Check height of any seats and adjust height accordingly if required.
  - Check any painted items for chips, vandalism and touch up if necessary.

N.B. Spare parts, accessories and touch up paint are available from the manufacturer/supplier.

