

Playground Maintenance Checklist

The frequency of playground inspections and maintenance procedures may need to be varied to take into account external factors including the intensity of use, and the accessibility of the equipment to sources of vandalism. This checklist is designed for a typical multi-purpose playground and is not necessarily a complete list, while some other categories may not apply.

However, it is the responsibility of the owner to carry out a safety inspection before a playground is made available for use, and to establish a formal inspection and maintenance routine in accordance with AS 4685.0:2017. A general guide is outlined below:

Daily Checklist

- Follow up malfunction/damage reports.
- Visual inspection of the playground environment, including a check for mulch displacement.

Weekly Checklist

- General visual inspection of the equipment for vandalism or disassembly. Inspection points include cleanliness, exposed footings, sharp edges, missing parts, excessive wear and structure integrity.
- Rake over playground mulch in high activity zones.

Quarterly Checklist

- Detailed visual inspection of the equipment for vandalism or disassembly.
- Check all fasteners for tightness - re-tighten as necessary.
- Check tension of nets on wire cored rope structures - re-tension as necessary.
- Detailed visual inspection of the equipment for wear - replace worn parts.
- Carry out routine service maintenance.
- Rake over mulch in the entire playground area and remove any foreign objects.
- Check undersurfacing depth for compliance with standards.

Annual Checklist

These procedures are in addition to the normal quarterly procedures. It is recommended the below inspection elements are conducted by a qualified Level 3 Playground Auditor, where applicable.

- Structural stability assessment of the equipment.
- Check equipment for compliance with Standards (as amended).
- Detailed visual inspection of the play environment.
- Rotary hoe existing playground mulch, and replenish to correct depth.

5 Year Checklist

- Compliance and safety audit to be conducted by a qualified Level 3 Playground Auditor.

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