



dbdplay ltd
Unit 5, Sheldon Business
Park, Sheldon Corner,
Chippenham,
Wiltshire,
SN14 0SQ

01249 470 100
Info@dbdplay.com
www.dbdplay.com

dbdplay Inspection and Maintenance Manual

dbdplay equipment should be maintained in accordance with the requirements of BS EN 1176-7 1998 which gives guidance on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of playground equipment.

The frequency and level of inspection will depend on the location, degree of use and likelihood of vandalism at the playground. However, we recommend, assuming normal usage, that the frequency of inspection should be as a very minimum that which is detailed in this schedule.

If during an inspection parts are discovered to be unsafe and they cannot be replaced or corrected immediately, the equipment should be secured against further use.

An inspection schedule should be maintained, and results of the three-monthly operational inspection and certified inspections must be recorded and kept for future reference.

INSPECTION SCHEDULE

Routine Visual Inspection

A routine inspection is recommended to identify any hazards that may be the result of vandalism or poor weather conditions. The routine visual inspection should take place either daily or weekly (depending on the level of usage). New playgrounds are often subject to above average use and therefore during the first few weeks we advise that daily visual checks are made. We recommend that the visual inspection should consist of the following checks as a minimum:

- All timbers and steelwork are secure.
- All fixings are in place and not loosening.
- The equipment has no protrusions or sharp edges.
- All chains, swing seats, tyres, rope work and connections are free from damage.
- Surface finishes are not damaged, rusting or deteriorating.
- The surfacing and surrounding area is clear and free from debris or sharp objects.
- The surfacing is not damaged.

Operational Inspection

This is a more detailed inspection carried out at one to three monthly intervals to check the operation and stability of the equipment. Please make a copy of this list and use it as your checklist and keep your findings with your records.

In addition to the checks made during the daily/weekly visual inspection the following checks should be made as a minimum;

General Checks

1. That the area surrounding the equipment is clear of rubbish and debris.
2. Inspect all timbers for damage and signs of decay.
3. Inspect all chains, tyres and connections for wear, damage or corrosion.
4. Inspect all steelwork for damage or excessive corrosion.
5. All components are in place.
6. Surface finishes are not damaged, rusting or deteriorating.
7. Inspect all bushes and shackle pins for wear. We recommend that any bushes with wear exceeding 50% be replaced and any shackle pins with wear exceeding 10% be replaced.
8. All welds show no signs of cracking or corrosion.
9. Check all foundations are secure.
10. All parts are secure and that there is no excessive movement between them that may lead to finger traps.

Ropes

11. Inspect all components for any protrusions or sharp edges.
12. Check all fixings are tight, in place and no protruding edges.
13. Check that ropes are not frayed, vandalised and have no protruding wires.
14. Particular attention should be paid to Eyebolts, Shackles and Links.

Bark Surfacing

15. That the bark has not dispersed and is consistently deep across the entire area.

Recreation Grass and Active Sport Surfacing

16. The surfacing is not damaged, and seams and edging are secure.

Wet Pour Surfacing

17. That the surfacing is not damaged or crumbling.

Annual Main Inspection

At intervals not exceeding 12 months, but preferably twice a year a detailed inspection should be carried out by a competent person and the results of the inspection entered into a permanent record for future reference. After ten years of use, one or two main structural bolts should be removed to enable inspection of the bolts for excessive corrosion.

MAINTENANCE

Replacement Parts

Any worn or damaged parts should be replaced with DBD authorised components. We do not recommend the use of homemade parts.

Timbers

The timbers are pressure treated at the production stage and therefore further treatment of the timbers is not necessary.

Our installation teams do make every effort to ensure that all timbers are rubbed down prior to leaving the site. However, air cracking can cause the timber to create splinters, these can easily be remedied by rubbing the crack with glass paper.

Timber will respond to atmospheric conditions and it is therefore quite normal for air cracking to occur during hot and persistently dry weather. However, this will recede during cooler and wetter months. Cracks should not exceed 8mm in width. The length of the crack is of no importance; however, the depth of the crack should not be more than half of the diameter of the log.

Just Like Grass and Active Sport Surfacing

Under normal circumstances this requires minimal maintenance, which will not need specialist equipment or training. To keep the surface in optimum condition, and to ensure maximum lifespan, the following maintenance will be necessary.

To maximise the durability of the surface, it is important to maintain the level of sand in the pile to within 2mm of the top. This is particularly important in the higher wear areas and is the most common underneath apparatus where the usage causes a scraping on the ground (e.g. under swings). Sand should have a particle range between 0.125-1.00mm, with a rounded or sub rounded shape. We are able to supply you with the correct sand if you wish.

Remove debris and rubbish from the surface by light brushing. During routine maintenance of any surrounding grass area, clippings or seed may blow onto the surface. If the area is not regularly brushed after such works, the seeds may germinate. In the event of this, a suitable preparatory weed killer can be used to maintain the appearance of the surface.

Should the surface be damaged, please give us a call for advice on the best way to carry out the repair.

Should you ever encounter any dog faeces on the surface the best option is to remove the offending item and either hose down or power wash the area. The surfacing is extremely porous so the water will drain away very quickly.

Wet Pour Safer Surface

Wet pour safer surfaces are low maintenance but from time to time may require an occasional sweep or wash to remove debris such as litter and leaves.

Salt, de-icers or any chemical agents should not be used on the surface.

The surface would benefit from being hosed down with clean water, this will lift any dirt that may have built up over time. Where sand or dust has become a problem the use of an industrial vacuum would be recommended.

Shade Structures

We recommend nets and sails are dismantled, dried and stored safely during the winter months to avoid damage from snow loading.