



Playequipment Safety

A template to evaluate pay equipment safety

Play Equipment Inspection

School: _____ Inspection Date: _____ Playground:

Category	Hazard Priority	Recom Action	Footnote Below	Reference Picture/s	Comments	Points
1 General Environment					5 possible points	
a) Signage about usage and age appropriateness						
b) Litter or trash laying around						
c) Border timbers, curbing, containment						
d) General comments						
2 Playground Protective Surface					20 possible points	
a) Proper depth of impact-absorbing material						
b) Free of hidden hazards, sharp objects, animal feces						
c) Standing water within use zone						
3 Use Zones					10 possible points	
a) Minimum 6' use zone in all directions of equipment						
b) Minimum 9' of separation between stationary equip						
c) Swings use zone adequate						
d) Slides have adequate exit space						
4 Tripping or Suspended Hazards					5 possible points	
a) All anchoring devices installed below surface						
b) Environmental obstacles (rocks, roots) protruding						
c) Support posts for balance beam						
d) Suspended members 7' above play surface						
e) Elements that can be looped greater than 5"						
g) Both ends of rope & chain are fixed over 7"						
h) Suspended members to be brightly colored						
5 Sharp, Crush, Pinch and Shear Points					10 possible points	
a) Slides						
b) Climbing Equipment						
c) Upper Body Equipment						
d) Stairways and Ladders						
e) Decks and Platforms						
f) Swings						
g) Rotating and Rocking Equipment						
h) Sand Play Areas						
6 Protrusions and Projections					10 possible points	5
a) Slides						
b) Climbing Equipment						
c) Upper Body Equipment						
d) Stairways and Ladders						
e) Decks and Platforms						
f) Swings						
g) Rotating and Rocking Equipment						
h) Sand Play Areas						

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7 Entanglements - 10 Points Possible					10 possible points	
a) Slides						
b) Climbing Equipment						
c) Upper Body Equipment						
d) Stairways and Ladders						
e) Decks and Platforms						
f) Swings						
g) Rotating and Rocking Equipment						
h) Sand Play Areas						
i) Weld joints free of breakage or rust						
j) Clamps are properly secured						
j) S hooks are closed and aligned properly						
8 Head and Torso Entrapments					10 possible points	
a) Slides						
b) Climbing Equipment						
c) Upper Body Equipment						
d) Stairways and Ladders						
e) Decks and Platforms						
f) Swings						
g) Rotating and Rocking Equipment						
h) Sand Play Areas						
9 Hardware / General Concerns					10 possible points	
a) Nuts and bolts are tight - no excessive wear						
b) Equip free from rust and chipping paint						
c) Equip free of sharp edges, splinters or rough surfaces						
d) Ropes, chains and cables have not frayed or worn out						
e) Equipment has not shifted or become bent						
f) No visible corrosion or rotting points						
g) No components missing						
h) Equipment not in code						
j) Pre-school swings (8' or under) existing						
k) School age swings (over 8') existing						
10 Equipment Accessibility					10 possible points	
a) Transfer platform(s)					Yes	
b) Ground level activity panels					No	
c) Meets section 15.6 of ADAAG					No	
d) Swings have accessible seats					N/A	

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Footnotes						
1 Pea Gravel uncompressed requirements - 6" for 6', 9" for 7' and 12" for 10' 1"- 2" = 5, 3"- 4" = 7, 5" - 6" = 10, 7"- 8" = 15						
2 EWF uncompressed requirements - 6" for 6', 9" for 7' and 12" for >12' 3"- 4" = 7, 5"- 6" = 10, 7"- 8" = 15						
3 Old Swings have numerous entanglement (including S Hook closures) and bolt and nut protrusion issues						
4 Old stand alone Box Climber has numerous end of pipe protrusions						
5 Old stand alone Gametime Overhead Climber first rung is greater than 10"						
6 Old wooden decks are worn, uneven and numerous places to get splinters						
7 More than two Swings per bay, remove excess swings leaving 2 Swings per bay						

Possible Playground Score of 100
Playground Inspection Score

Hazard Priority Rating System

- Priority 1 - Life threatening and permanent disability - correct immediately
- Priority 2 - Serious Injury resulting in temporary disability - correct as soon as possible

Recommended Actions

- R = remove or retrofit
- M = maintenance or repair as soon as possible
- B = put in budget for repair or replacement (not in scope of this inspection)