



## **M&B Bonded Rubber Mulch Outdoor Maintenance Guidelines**

### **General Information**

Our Rubber Bonded Surfacing is an extremely popular, cost efficient and safe play area flooring for children of all ages.

To ensure the surface is kept in good working order and to ensure our 6 year limited warranty is valid, we strongly advise that simple and straightforward maintenance is carried out periodically upon the surface.

### **Observations when the surfacing is first laid**

The surfacing is generally ready to play upon 48-72 hours after installation.

Due to the properties and characteristics of the polyurethane Resin used within the application and the influence of weather conditions, the tonality and colour of the finished bonded surface may slightly fluctuate, this does not affect the efficacy of the surface and will inevitably fade.

### **Routine Monthly Maintenance**

Lightly brush, vacuum, blow or hose off entire surface to remove any loose debris such as loose rubber particulates (rubber fretting), sand, dirt, leaves, twigs, tree sap, chewing gum, bird droppings, scuff marks etc. A pressure washer may be used, (making sure not to exceed 1500 psi) and placing spray nozzle no closer than 12 inches to surface.

Alternatively, use a leaf blower placed on reverse action to collect debris and weed seedlings from the surface.

If left, the small deposits of debris will collect in the surface of the bonded surface and may 'compost' and become habitable for weed seedlings; If weed seedlings are apparent, do not try to cut them out of the rubber as this may damage the surface. Simply use a 'ready to use' systemic weedkiller to treat the weed such as 'Round Up' or any other proprietary brand containing Glyphosate herbicide.

This type of weed killer should ideally be applied when rain isn't forecast for the following 12 hours; The weed thereafter will ultimately die off, this may take 7-14 days without affecting the performance of the rubber surface whatsoever.

### **Isolated Stains**

On heavily stained isolated spots, while the surface is still damp from hosing, apply at half strength an all-purpose, bleach free alkali based cleaner using a hand-held spray bottle, gently rub with a 10" medium-soft bristle brush.

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Repeat as needed on extremely tough stains.

Once the entire surface area has been cleaned, rinse thoroughly using a garden hose with a nozzle attachment.

### **Loose Rubber Particulate (Rubber Fretting)**

Although our Rubber Bonded Surfaces are extremely resilient, fair wear and tear will ultimately result in loose pieces of rubber particulates lying on the surface of the flooring especially within the first 6-12 months of application.

Although it isn't essential these pieces are removed from the surface, it may be necessary to do so if younger children are playing on the area so as to minimise the possibility of them putting the pieces in their mouths.

Inevitably, if a good maintenance regime is adopted, these particulates will inevitably be removed when the monthly maintenance regime is carried out.

The minimum depth M&B Surfaces Ltd apply the Rubber Bonding to comply with Critical Fall Height (BSEN1177:2008) is 40mm, therefore where rubber fretting is taken into account, the bonded surface will still provide many years of service.

### **Recommended equipment for maintenance.**

- ✓ Medium brush. Power Vac or blower
- ✓ Garden hose with spray nozzle
- ✓ 5 litre garden pump sprayer
- ✓ Pressure washer recommended (1500 psi maximum)
- ✓ All-purpose alkali based, bleach free cleaner.
- ✓ Disposable rags
- ✓ Disposable gloves
- ✓ Cleaning & rinsing buckets
- ✓ 10" medium scrub brush

### **Avoid the following chemicals as they can be extremely detrimental to the Rubber Bonded Surface:**

- Chlorine bleach
- Disinfectants
- Petrol
- Diesel
- Hydraulic and lubricating oils
- Thinners
- Mineral spirits
- Solvents
- Heavily concentrated degreasers

**Note: never use steel or heavy duty nylon brushes or electric cleaning units.**

**For further information please contact our Sales Office on 01538 755422**