

Preventing play-related injuries

Conduct routine checks for common hazards in the play area and ensure appropriate ground surfacing

Inspect play equipment for these hazards:

- Bolts and other protrusions can cause clothing to get entangled or skin to be punctured
- Pinch, crush, shearing, and sharp edge hazards can cut skin or crush a body part
- Metal or wood fragments should be removed to minimize risk of slivers
- Missing parts, such as ladder rungs or anchoring bolts create unnecessary risks to children

Ensure appropriate ground surfacing beneath play equipment:

- Minimize fall-related injuries from play equipment heights by placing protective ground surfacing under play equipment where children may fall
- Loose-fill such as sand, pea gravel, wood chips or wood mulch maintained at an appropriate depth can reduce serious fall-related play injuries
- Asphalt, concrete, dirt and grass do not provide appropriate cushioning under play equipment

