

Playground Checklist

How safe is your playground?

EQUIPMENT

YES NO



Fall Height & Fall Zones

Is the fall height less than 1.5m from all items of equipment? (Early Childhood)

YES NO

Is the fall height less than 2.5m from all items of equipment? (All other settings) Is there a minimum clearance around each item of equipment?

YES NO
 YES NO

Under-Surfacing

Is there impact absorbing material under all items of equipment over 600mm in height? (e.g. sand, pine bark, mulch or synthetic surfacing)

YES NO

Is the under-surfacing well maintained (at least 200mm deep loose fill material)?

YES NO



Design Hazards

Is the play area free of head entrapment spaces – openings between 89mm – 230mm? (600mm or more off the ground)

YES NO

Is any moving equipment free from potential wedging or crushing points?

YES NO

Are there sturdy guard rails and handrails appropriate to a child's grip size? (16-45mm)

YES NO

Does the equipment design prevent possible climbing on the outside of the structure?

YES NO



Maintenance

Is the equipment frame stable and free from movement?

YES NO

Is the equipment free from rust, cracks or broken items?

YES NO

Are timber items on the equipment free from rotted or splintered wood?

YES NO

Is the area free from any protruding bolts or sharp edges on the equipment?

YES NO

Is the play space area free from loose stones or gravel?

YES NO

Is the play area free from trip hazards?

YES NO

Is the play area free from tree branches at eye level or exposed tree roots?

YES NO

If you answered NO to any of these, the playground could be in need of attention!

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

YES NO

Age appropriate Design

Does the play area have separate areas for different age groups?

Is there signage indicating the recommended age groups for equipment provided?



Location

Do you believe that the playground area is adequately separated from environmental hazards? (eg. Large bodies of water such as lakes or rivers which are not fenced)

Do you believe that the playground is adequately separated from busy roadways?



Shade

Are there shade structures or trees offering shade over the playground area?

Supervision

Is there some place nearby for adults to sit and easily view children on the equipment?

Are there rules posted regarding expected behaviour?



Onsite Facilities

Are there facilities such as toilets, drink fountains that are easily accessible from the play area?

Is there appropriate access for users with disabilities?

*Kidsafe NT is supported by the Kidsafe WA **Playground Advisory Service**, which offers a variety of expert services aimed at improving playground safety. Kidsafe NT is able to co-ordinate education workshops, advice & playground assessments through Kidsafe WA on a fee for service basis.



FURTHER INFORMATION:

Contact Kidsafe NT
ph: (08) 8941 8234

www.kidsafent.com.au

Proudly sponsored by



Kidsafe NT © 2018

Kidsafe NT acknowledges Kidsafe WA for allowing us to edit and adapt this checklist for the Northern Territory. Excerpts may be copied for educational purposes. We also acknowledge the valuable support of the NT Government Dept. of Health.

Disclaimer: This document is a guide only to playground safety. It does not constitute as a regulated playground safety assessment.