

5 Steps to Playground Planning

A commercial playground is an investment in your community, its children, and the future. In this 5-step guide, we outline the planning process and give tips to help your playground project be successful.

1 Project Objectives

- What are the age groups that will use the playground?
- How many children will use the playground at any given time?
- Are there special needs in the user group to consider in the design?
- Is there a specific project deadline?

2 Budget & Funding

There is more to a playground project budget than just the cost of the playground equipment. Be sure to also include site preparation, safety surfacing and borders, site furnishings like benches and trash receptacles, sunshade structures, shipping costs, and installation fees. Playgrounds are an investment that doesn't have to lay solely on your organization's shoulders. Consider applying for federal and manufacturer grants, seeking sponsorships, and fundraising to help supplement your organization's contributions.

3 Site Selection

Ideally, you want a flat, well-lit, easily accessible site that has good drainage, maximum visibility, and is large enough to accommodate your user group. Most sites aren't ideal to begin with. Our team of professionals can help you select the best available site, determine which playground design and installation method will work best, and the necessary site preparation for your project.

4 Design

Choosing a playground design that best accomplishes your project's objectives can be challenging, but it doesn't have to be. We offer project design, sales, installation, and service - all in one place. You can also consider forming a playground planning committee with people from your organization who have different perspectives and skills that can provide input on the playground planning process. You can visit our website <https://www.360recreation.com> for product catalogs from multiple manufacturers all in one place.

5 Finishing Touches

Proper safety surfacing helps keep children safe as they climb, swing, slide, and run on the playground. Surfacing and borders are also important for accessibility and inclusivity. With options like pea gravel, sand, engineered wood fiber, pour-in-place rubber, rubber tiles, and synthetic turf, we can help you select the best materials, the best method of containment, and the amount needed for your project.

Site furnishings like benches, picnic tables, trash receptacles, and bike racks are the perfect complements to any playground project. Select products that are specifically built to last in a commercial use outdoor environment that won't rust and will hold up to the elements.

Sunshades that are designed to block the sun's harmful UV rays keep playground-goers cooler and sunburn-free and also help prolong the life of your playground equipment. They come in many shapes, sizes, and colors and can be customized to best fit your project.

From a FREE consultation and site inspection to quotes with custom project designs to complete site prep and installation, our team of professionals is ready to help you create the perfect playground for your project. Call 888-360-PARK (7275) or email sales@360recreation.com to get started.

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