

Playground Safety Quicklist
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#	Safety Hazard or Concern	Yes	No	Comments
1	Entrapments present 3.5" to 9" openings where children can entrap heads or necks			
2	Angle entrapments present upturned "V" angle (less than 55 degrees)			
3	Protrusions that cause punctures or internal compressions (test with gauges) (bolts, screws, pipe ends, handles on seesaws and spring riders ,etc.)			
4	Improper Barriers (platforms or bridges) less than 29" high - 2 to 5 yrs. less 38" high - 5 to 12 yrs. Or w/horizontal pieces			
5	Barrier required, but missing missing above 20" 2 to 5 years missing above 48" 5 to 12 years			
6	Handholds missing (1" to 1.5" diameter, graspable handholds/grips) handholds are missing or are larger than recommended or are not graspable			
7	Adjacent components are not complimentary play patterns result in conflicts of space or type			
8	Heights between stepped decks too great more than 12" - 2 to 5 years more than 18" - 5 to 12 years			
9	Slide pole present for 2 to 5 year olds (slide pole is not recommended for this age group)			
10	Slide pole has improper clearance less than 18" between deck edge and edge of pole			
11	Slide exit height improper more than 0 - 11" for decks under 4' more or less than 7 - 15" for decks over 4'			
12	Metal slide bed or other bare metal should be shaded if not facing north or painted a light color			
13	Slide exits in congested area			
14	Slide side rail less than 4" high			
15	Climbers/Superstructures have inadequate use zones minimum 6' from perimeter in all directions			
16	Inadequate clearance between structures 9' minimum 12' if either piece has moving components			
17	Falls from one level of equipment to another or onto metal rungs or bars particularly true of metal components that project away from deck			
18	Material depth inappropriate to height of equipment resilient material depth should coincide w/ equipment height (see CPSC chart)			
19	More than 2 swings per bay (except tire swings - one per bay)			
20	Swings spaced improperly within bays 24" minimum between swings 30" minimum from swing to swing set frame			
21	Swings of any kind attached to climbing structure or composite structure			
22	Tire swing has inadequate clearance 3D" from top of tire to post when held up to beam			
23	Swings located in center of playground or in high traffic areas (swings should be at the edge or rear of the playground)			
24	Swings have inadequate use zone front and rear or at ends of beam (strap swings should have 2x height pivot point to surface in each direction) (toddler swings should have 2x distance from pivot point to seat in each direction)			
25	Improper or poor maintenance			

The above Safety Checklist is not intended to serve in the place of a full safety audit by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector, but should be used as an assessment tool only to indicate the need for a full audit or for on-going safety program documentation. It is stated in the negative to highlight the hazards or problems.