

## **Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Surfacing and Mulch FAQs**

### **Is there any steel content in Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Surfacing?**

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No, unlike our competitors, Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Surfacing is produced from inner tubes rather than tire rubber and guaranteed to be 100% wire-free making it the SAFEST CHOICE for any application.

### **How is shock-absorption determined?**

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The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, the U.S. Testing Company, and the State of Illinois, among numerous state and federal agencies, independent laboratories and licensed testing companies have conducted various tests designed to measure the shock-absorption of various surface materials as they relate to falling objects. Tire rubber chips have been shown to consistently absorb more shock impact than any other standard surface material. This is particularly important because more than 550,000 playground injuries end up in the emergency room every year. That is more than 1,500 visits per day. The majority of those injuries are attributed to falls. Therefore you can't afford to have anything less for your child's safety than Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Playground Surfacing.

### **Will Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Surfacing disintegrate or decompose?**

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No. Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Surfacing is made from 100% vulcanized rubber. The vulcanizing process makes the rubber almost indestructible.

### **Is Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Surfacing ever dusty or slippery?**

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No. In addition to promoting almost instantaneous drainage, Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Surfacing retains small amounts of moisture, which is just enough to prevent the accumulation of dust and slipperiness.

### **Does Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Mulch wash or blow away?**

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No. Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Surfacing and Mulch is too heavy to be significantly affected by normal high winds or heavy rains.

### **What colors does Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Surfacing come in?**

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For those who want to make a big visual impact, we offer a variety of custom-colored Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Mulch to match play equipment. Currently available are black, blue, Kelly green, mocha brown, redwood, and tan.

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### **How durable is colored Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Mulch?**

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As leaders in the recycled rubber industry, we have developed a non-toxic, high quality Latex based paint for the rubber. The end result is that the colored Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Mulch will not fade any faster than that of good quality house paint. Approx. 20% fade after 2 years and 40% after 8 years.

### **How should the play area be prepared prior to installation?**

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We recommend the area be prepared ahead of time by clearing the ground of rocks, stumps and other debris, then calculate an area that surrounds the play equipment of 6-8 feet (commonly referred to as the "use" or "fall zone"). We also recommend the use of an approved playground border around the entire play area, which will contain the Ground Cush'n™, and a filter fabric beneath the rubber to prevent weed growth into the play area. Where Ground Cush'n™ is replacing some other surface material, it is best to remove the old surfacing material completely. Sand or pebbles, for example, will only work their way to the surface and minimize Ground Cush'n™ shock-absorption values, and reintroduce abrasiveness to the play area. Wood mulch or chips will continue to attract insects, etc. under the surface and will eventually decompose there as well.

### **Will Ground Cush'n™ stain clothing or the area where it is installed?**

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No. Unlike wood mulch or chips which can bleed when wet, Ground Cush'n™ Rubber Mulch does not stain.

### **Is Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Surfacing and Mulch toxic?**

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No. Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Mulch is non-toxic (and in the case of colored surfacing chips, only non-toxic paints are used). The chips have no taste appeal, but if they should be accidentally swallowed, test reports show that the chips will simply pass through the digestive tracts of both humans and animals. (Maryland Environmental Services, 1994)

### **Does Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Surfacing and Mulch smell?**

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No. Some odor may be present at the time of installation, but, similar to installing a new shower curtain, any odor will soon disappear.

### **Will the DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) bother property owners where Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Mulch is installed?**

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No. The DEP "strongly promotes the use of recycled products since it is essential to the long-term success of local and national recycling programs."

### **Will mulch chips that find their way into clothing melt in a clothes dryer?**

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No. Vulcanized rubber melts at approximately 500 degrees F. A clothes dryer operates at less than 100 degrees F.

### **How does the cost of Ground Cush'n™ Rubber Mulch compare to other products?**

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Initially, Ground Cush'n™ Rubber Mulch may cost a little more than some other surfaces, however, Ground Cush'n™ only needs to be installed once. No annual upgrading or replacement is required. Furthermore, in comparison to wood mulch, Ground Cush'n™ Rubber Mulch requires a maximum of six inches in depth, versus 12 inches for wood mulch.

### **Is Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Mulch backed by a warranty?**

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We guarantee the impact performance of Ground Cush'n™ Premium Rubber Surfacing and Mulch for fifty years and provide an eight-year warranty against total color loss. Note: Failure to maintain appropriate depth, as determined according to the highest potential fall height, may void manufacturer warranty and cause permanent injury or harm.