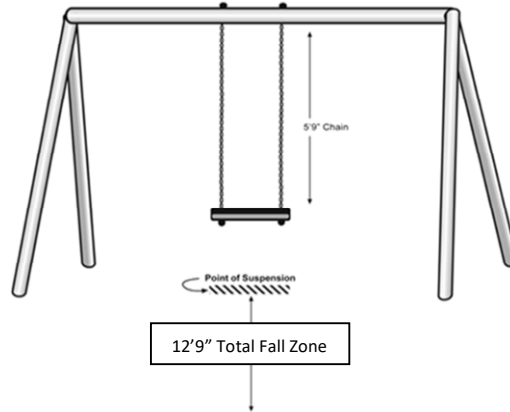


Playground Requirements & Best Practices

Fall Zones

- Use zones (also called “fall zones”) should surround equipment by six feet on all sides in general.
- For swings, measure the length of the swing chain and add seven (7) feet. This is the use zone needed in front and behind swings (ex. chain length is 5’9” ; add 7 feet; total fall zone needed in front and behind swings needs to be 12’9”).



- Use zones of stationary equipment may overlap if the equipment is six (6) feet apart and 30 inches high or less. If more than 30 inches high, overlap is allowed only if equipment is nine (9) feet apart.
- Slides greater than six (6) feet high require an exit use zone equal to their height up to eight (8) feet. Use zones around slides extend 4 feet from the back and sides of the climbing structure and 5 feet from the front and the sides of the bottom of the slide.



- For more information, please see the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Public Playground Safety Handbook (Publication #325, November 2010) available at www.cpsc.gov

Resilient Surfacing

Height of Equipment	Depth of Surfacing Needed	Best Practices
Less than 3 feet	None, but on soft surface	9 inches if over 18 inches tall
3 feet – 5 feet	3 inches	At least 9 inches
Higher than 5 feet	6 inches	At least 9 inches