

Consumer Information Sheet for Playground Surfacing Materials¹

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) estimates that about 100,000 playground equipment-related injuries resulting from falls to the ground surface are treated annually in the U.S. hospital emergency rooms. Injuries involving this hazard pattern tend to be among the most serious of all playground injuries, and have the potential to be fatal, particularly when the injury is to the head.

The surface under and around playground equipment can be a major factor in determining the injury-causing potential of a fall. It is self evident that a fall onto a shock absorbing surface is less likely to cause a serious injury than a fall onto a hard surface. Playground equipment should never be placed on hard surfaces such as concrete or asphalt and while grass may appear to be acceptable it may quickly turn to hard packed earth in areas of high traffic. Shredded bark mulch, wood chips, fine sand or fine gravel are considered to be acceptable shock absorbing surfaces when installed and maintained at a sufficient depth under and around playground equipment.

The following table lists the maximum height from which a child would not be expected to sustain a life-threatening head

injury in a fall onto four different loose-fill surfacing materials if they are installed and maintained at depths of 6, 9 and 12 inches. However, it should be recognized that all injuries due to falls cannot be prevented no matter what surfacing material is used.

It is recommended that a shock absorbing material should extend a minimum of 6 feet in all directions from the perimeter of stationary equipment such as climbers and slides. However, because children may deliberately jump from a moving swing, the shock absorbing material should extend in the front and rear of a swing a minimum distance of 2 times the height of the pivot point measured from a point directly beneath the pivot on the supporting structure.

This information is intended to assist in comparing the relative shock-absorbing properties of various materials. No particular material is recommended over another. However, each material is only effective when properly maintained. Materials should be checked periodically and replenished to maintain correct depth as determined necessary for your equipment. The choice of a material depends on the type and height of the playground equipment, the availability of the material in your area, and its cost.

Fall height in feet from which a life threatening head injury would not be expected:

TYPE OF MATERIAL	6" depth	9" depth	12" depth
Double Shredded Bark Mulch	6'	10'	11'
Wood Chips	6'	7'	12'
Fine Sand	5'	5'	9'
Fine Gravel	6'	7'	10'

¹This information has been extracted from CPSC publications "Playground Surfacing - Technical Information Guide" and "Handbook for Public Playground Safety." Copies of these reports can be obtained by sending a post card to the: Office of Public Affairs, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207 or call the toll-free hotline: 1-800-638-2772.

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Instructions

Box 63
Model 30509

DELUXE Baby Swing

Thank you for purchasing a ChildLife® brand Deluxe Baby Swing! Please save this Instruction Sheet in the event you want to contact ChildLife Inc. at any time.

This product is intended for use by one child only from ages 9 months to 24 months with a maximum weight of 40 pounds.

Do **not** install this swing less than 6 feet (1.8 m) from any structure or obstruction such as a fence, garage, house, overhanging branches, laundry lines, or electrical wires. Do **not** install this swing over concrete, asphalt, packed earth, or any other hard surface. A fall onto a hard surface can result in **serious injury** to the equipment user. Do **not** hang this swing from a swing support that is more than 8' off the ground. The maximum fall height for this product is 8'.

Do **not** allow children to use this swing until it has been properly installed.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

This product is designed to be installed **only** on a ChildLife® brand play system that has been correctly assembled, installed, tested, and maintained in accordance with its Assembly Instructions. Naturally, ChildLife can **not** be held responsible for the structural integrity of any other support structure or system from which **you** elect to hang this product. At a minimum, any such support should conform to ASTM standard F-1148-00, Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Home Playground Equipment. This safety standard is available at www.astm.org.

For information and recommendations on **resilient surfacing materials**, please refer to page 4. This shows the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's Consumer Information Sheet for Playground Surfacing Materials. When installed correctly, the maximum fall height for this product is 8'.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

This product comes complete with Spring Clips at the end of each swing rope. This allows for easy attachment to the factory-installed Nylon Swing Hangers on your ChildLife® play system. Open the Spring Clip at the end of each swing rope and insert the open clip into the Nylon Swing Hanger. Ensure that the Spring Clip closes **securely**. **Always** orient the Spring Clip so that the wider end is at the **bottom**, as shown in the illustration on page 3.

HOW TO USE YOUR DELUXE BABY SWING - SAFELY!

Observing the following statements and warnings reduces the likelihood of serious or fatal injury:

- This product is intended for use by one child only from ages 9 months to 24 months with a maximum weight of 40 pounds.
- The yellow bumper in the front of the swing is permanently secured in place for safety. Lift and place the child into the swing seat, and remove the child from the swing seat, with care.
- **Always** use the Safety Strap. Fasten by inserting the flat end into the buckle. Tighten by pulling the end of the strap. To release, compress snap sides and remove flat end from buckle.
- ChildLife **strongly** recommends on-site responsible adult supervision at all times for children of all ages.
- The buyer and/or the parent is warned to **instruct children:**
 - **Not** to walk close to, in front of, behind, or between moving items.
 - **Not** to spin or twist the swing ropes, or loop them over the top support bar, since this may reduce the strength of the rope.
 - **Not** to swing empty swing seats.
 - **Not** to swing sideways into the path of adjacent swings or obstructions.
 - **Not** to use the equipment in a manner other than that for which it is intended.
 - **Not** to get off of or jump from the swing while it is in motion.
 - **Not** to swing when they are wet or the swing is wet.
 - **Not** to stand in the swing seat.
 - **Not** to ride or leave bicycles or other toys in the swing area.
 - **Not** to swing so high that ropes become slack, or above the height of the swing support.
 - **Not** to attach items to the swing, such as, but not limited to, jump ropes, clothes line, pet leashes, cables and chain as they may cause a strangulation hazard.
 - To sit in the center of the swing with their full weight on the seat.
 - To hold on to the swing with **both hands**.

In addition, adults **must** dress children appropriately for play. Use well-fitting shoes that do not have slippery soles. Avoid ponchos, scarfs, hoods, loose-fitting clothing, neckties, and any clothing with a drawstring. **Serious injury** could result should any part of the children's clothing become entangled in the equipment.

HOW TO MAINTAIN YOUR DELUXE BABY SWING

- Remove plastic swing seats and take indoors or do not use when the temperature drops below 0 degrees F. or above 100 degrees F. surface temperature.
- Check swing seats, ropes, and hardware monthly during the useage season for evidence of deterioration. Items that show evidence of deterioration should be replaced immediately.
- Check the ChildLife® swing support and the Nylon Swing Hangers to which this product is fastened twice monthly during the useage season and maintain as required. It is particularly important that this procedure be followed at the beginning of each useage season.

PLEASE NOTE!

When the time comes to disassemble and dispose of the swing, please do so in such a way that no unreasonable hazards will exist at the time the equipment is discarded.

Thank you!

