

17 Not appropriate Equipment for any age group: trampolines, swinging gates, giant strides, climbing ropes not secured at ends, animal figure swings, multiple occupancy swings, and swinging dual exercise rings and trapeze bars.

Not appropriate for preschool children (ages 2-5): freestanding arch climbers, freestanding climbing equipment with flexible components, fulcrum seesaws, and log rolls, track rides, spiral slides with more than one 360 degree turn, parallel bars, and vertical sliding poles.

Slides (ages 2-5): Should not exceed 8 ft. in height. For slides greater than 6 ft. (maximum 8 ft.), the use zone at the exit should be as long as the slide is high.

Horizontal ladders and overhead rings are not appropriate for children 3 years and younger. The **maximum height for 4-5 year olds is 60 inches**- this only applies to horizontal ladders and overhead rings.

In addition to the equipment listed above, the following equipment is not appropriate for infants and toddlers (6months-2 years): rung ladders, merry-go-rounds, rotating tire swings, spiral slides with a full 360 degree turn, balance beams.

Climbing Equipment-Under two years: Can be no more than 32 inches high.

Check: Catch points, open "S" hooks, exposed hardware that can cut children, head entrapments, pinch, crush, shearing, or sharp hazards, and tripping hazards. **Protruding Bolts** may only have 2 threads showing.

Head entrapments are any opening that measures 3.5- 9 inches where children could get their bodies through and their heads stuck. Depending on the location this can be a major or a minor hazard. Fence openings are allowed to be 4 inches wide. Openings in chairs, benches, or tires are **not considered** head entrapments.

Fence Height: Child care center-minimum of 48 inches, latches 34-48 inches; Family child care home-minimum of 42 inches, latches minimum 34 inches.

Frozen Cushioning: If children do not use the equipment because it is frozen, cushioning **should not** be marked as a safety hazard. When cushioning is frozen or snow covered it is no longer considered cushioning surface and children should be prevented from using the equipment.

Slides	Height of slide	Exit Height
Under 2 yrs.	Max. 32 in. high	6 in. or less
2 yrs. and up	0 -3.99 ft.	11 in. or less
2 yrs. and up	4 ft. +	At least 7in. but no more than 15 in.

Protective Barriers	Under 2 years	Preschool
Requirement	Required for equipment over 18 in. tall	Required for equipment over 30 in. above ground
Height of barrier	24 in. tall	Top surface should be 29in. above platform.

Swings	Distance Between	Distance from Ground
Single-axis-Preschool	No more than 2 swing per bay. Between swing at rest: 24 in. Between swing & support structure: 30 in.	12 in. from ground
Tot Swings-single axis. Without adult assistance	No more than 2 swing per bay. Distance between swing and support structure: 20 in.	At least 6 in. but no more than 8 in. from the ground
Tot Swings-With adult assistance	Same as tot swings-single axis Between swing at rest: 20 in.	The seat should rest at least 24 in. from the ground
Tire Swing	Only one per bay	Min. of 12 in. from ground

Spring Rockers	Height	Use Zone
Under 2 yrs.	12-16 inches	6ft. when adjacent equipment is 30 in. or less
2 yrs. and up	14-28 inches	9ft. when adjacent equipment is more than 30in.

Minimum compressed loose-fill surfacing depths		
Inches of (loose-fill material)	Protects to fall height (ft.)	
*6	Shredded/recycled rubber	10
9	Sand	4
9	Pea Gravel	5
9	Wood mulch (non-CCA)	7
9	Wood Chips	10

*CPSC has determined shredded/recycled rubber does not compress in the same manner as other materials.

For poured or installed surfaces, materials must meet **ASTM 1292** and programs must provide documentation.

For more information on playground requirements see http://ersi.info/PDF/playground_revised_10-3-13.pdf.

Types of Equipment	Under 2 years Use Zone	Types of Equipment	2+ years Use Zone
Slide: 0-2 yrs.	Equipment 18-32 in. 6 feet at the end of the slide and 3ft. in all other directions	Slide: 2 + yrs.	6 feet in all directions and max of 8 ft. if slide is over 6ft. high.
Swing: 0-2 yrs.	Tot swing: 2 times length of pivot point to swing seat. In front and back. Support structure: 3 ft. of clear space to the side	Swings: 2+ yrs.	Single Axis:2 times length of pivot point to the surface below in front and back
Tire swings: 0-2 yrs.	Not rec'd. If have tire swing that doesn't rotate, apply fall zone req. for single axis swing	Tire Swings: 2+ years	Distance of 6 feet plus the measurement from the pivot point to the swing seat and 30 in.+ measurement from the pivot point to the swing seat to the support structure
All other stationary: 0-2 yrs.	Equipment 18 in. high should have equipment spaced 3 feet apart	All other stationary: 2+ yrs.	30 in. high or less: 6 feet apart 31 in. or higher: 9 feet apart (shared use zone)