

Playpave Playground Maintenance Guide

Playpave rubber surfacing is engineered for durability, resilience, and long-term performance. While the surface is highly resistant to damage and discoloration, routine maintenance is essential to preserve its appearance, safety, and lifespan. With proper care, only minimal maintenance is required.

Standard cleaning methods typically involve pressure washing to remove dirt, debris, and surface staining. The following maintenance procedures should be performed at a minimum of once per year. For optimal results, twice-yearly cleaning is recommended. Additional cleanings may be performed at the client's discretion, depending on usage and desired appearance.

Attention: Please read all care instructions thoroughly before cleaning the surface.

Section 1.

Maintenance & Cleaning Procedures

1. **Surface Preparation**
Sweep or blow off all loose dirt, debris, and organic material from the surface before wet cleaning.
2. **Routine Cleaning**
A pressure washer is the ideal cleaning method for PIP rubber surfacing.
 - For average dirt and surface staining, use a pressure washer at approximately 2,500 PSI, maintaining a distance of no closer than 4 inches from the surface.
 - Repeat as necessary to achieve desired cleanliness.
3. **Heavier Staining & Discoloration**
 - For more stubborn stains, a power washer may be used at no greater than 3,000 PSI.
 - Maintain a minimum distance of 3 inches from the surface at all times.

4. Final Rinse

Once deep dirt and stains have been removed, rinse the entire surface using a garden hose or a pressure washer set to its lowest PSI. This prevents loosened debris from settling back into the pores of the rubber.

Heavily Stained Sections

For areas that resist standard pressure washing:

1. Wet the affected section thoroughly.
2. Scrub the surface using a mixture of water and a mild, non-acid household detergent.
 - For rust stains, CLR diluted with water may be used.
3. Scrub using a medium-stiff bristled brush or, for larger areas, a stiff bristled broom.
4. Allow the cleaning solution to soak for 10–30 minutes.
5. Pressure wash the area using no more than 3,000 PSI and maintaining a minimum distance of 3 inches from the surface.
6. Repeat as necessary until the stain is removed.
7. Rinse thoroughly to remove all remaining residue and debris.

Best Practices for Optimal Results

1. Always remove loose dirt and debris before wetting or pressure washing the surface.
2. Pre-treat stubborn stains with cleaning agents prior to pressure washing.
3. Clean in slow, methodical passes to ensure even coverage and avoid missing sections.
4. Work in manageable areas to maintain consistent results.
5. Thoroughly rinse the entire surface after cleaning.
6. Schedule major cleanings in the spring, after the final snow melt, when the surface is fully accessible.

Preventative Maintenance Measures

To preserve the appearance and integrity of your Playpave rubber surface:

1. Sweep or blow off dirt and debris regularly to prevent staining.
2. Monitor objects that may leak, drip, or spill (e.g., trash bins, planters, equipment). Use mats or protective barriers when possible.
3. Perform a thorough cleaning at the end of the fall season to remove leaves and organic matter before winter.
 - Leaves and organic debris can leach tannins into the surface, causing discoloration when left under snow for extended periods.
 - The less organic matter left on the surface, the better the long-term appearance.

Recommended Cleaning Tools

- Medium bristle brush or stiff bristle broom
- Mild household or commercial detergent (non-acid based)
- Garden hose with nozzle attachment
- Pressure washer (maximum 3,000 PSI)

Chemicals & Equipment to Avoid

The following may cause damage, discoloration, or degradation of the rubber surface and should not be used:

1. Certain disinfectants
2. Bleach-based pool cleaners
3. Pool shocking agents
4. Concentrated bleach
5. Weak acids (found in some residential cleaners)

6. Certain organic solvents
7. Hot steam machines

Section 2.

Polyurethane Roller Coat Rejuvenation / Playpave Sealer

Purpose:

Restore binder content in the wear layer of poured-in-place rubber surfacing to improve UV resistance, rebond exposed granules, and extend service life.

1. Inspection and Surface Assessment

- 1.1 Inspect the surface for excessive wear, loose granules, contamination, or structural failure.
- 1.2 Confirm that the surface is suitable for rejuvenation treatment and does not require structural repair.
- 1.3 Identify areas requiring patch repair prior to coating.
- 1.4 Document existing surface condition with photos.

2. Environmental Conditions

- 2.1 Perform work only under dry weather conditions.
- 2.2 Ambient and surface temperature shall be within manufacturer-approved range (typically 50°F–95°F).
- 2.3 Relative humidity shall not exceed 85–90%.
- 2.4 Surface must be completely dry prior to application.
- 2.5 No precipitation shall occur during application or curing.

3. Surface Preparation

- 3.1 Mechanically clean the entire surface using low-pressure washing or approved cleaning equipment.
- 3.2 Remove dirt, debris, oils, biological growth, and foreign residues.
- 3.3 Allow surface to dry completely after cleaning.
- 3.4 Ensure no standing water or moisture remains in the surface matrix.

4. Material Preparation

- 4.1 Use only manufacturer-approved polyurethane roller coat binder.
- 4.2 Do not dilute, modify, or add solvents to the binder.
- 4.3 Mix binder per manufacturer instructions using mechanical mixing equipment.
- 4.4 Maintain batch control to ensure consistent application rates.

5. Application

- 5.1 Apply polyurethane binder evenly using rollers or squeegee methods.
- 5.2 Work binder into the surface to promote penetration into exposed granule matrix.
- 5.3 Avoid puddling or over-application.
- 5.4 Maintain uniform coverage across the entire treatment area.
- 5.5 Monitor application rate to achieve specified spread rate.

6. Curing

- 6.1 Allow treated surface to cure per manufacturer recommendations.
- 6.2 Restrict pedestrian access during cure period.
- 6.3 Protect surface from contamination during curing.
- 6.4 Verify cure completion prior to reopening area.

7. Final Inspection

- 7.1 Inspect coated surface for uniform appearance and coverage.
- 7.2 Confirm no excess gloss pooling or dry spots.
- 7.3 Document finished condition with photos.
- 7.4 Record maintenance completion date.

8. Maintenance Interval

Roller coat rejuvenation is recommended every 3–5 years, depending on UV exposure, climate, and traffic intensity. High-traffic or high-UV environments may require more frequent treatment.

Important Warning

Failure to follow the cleaning and maintenance instructions outlined in this guide may result in damage to the rubber surface and may void any applicable warranty. Adhering to these guidelines will help preserve the structural integrity, safety, and appearance of your Playpave surface.