

# Important Information for Use

Thank you for purchasing 'Tastech Services Ltd's Equipment. Tastech Services Ltd's **equipment is 'certified' for use in supervised Early Childhood facilities** and schools with weight bearing guidelines to be adhered to.

In order to get the most out of our equipment we suggest you take the time to read these guidelines and refer to the NZ Handbook Supervised Early Childhood Facilities – Playground Equipment and Surfacing Handbook. SNZ HB 5828.2:2006 and the playground equipment and surfacing NZS 5828:2015 Standard.

As our equipment is modular and can be configured in many different ways, it is important to observe some basic rules and common sense to ensure compliance and safe play.

1. **Indoors is Best:** Do not leave the wooden equipment outdoors overnight or erect on damp or wet surfaces. The wood is not treated so will warp over time if it comes into contact with liquid.
2. **Safety Surfacing:** Please ensure you have sufficient safety surfacing to accommodate the various combinations of equipment. In ECE you require a minimum of 1.5m of soft fall around any cluster of equipment above 600mm high. Should your set up include a saddle mounted on top of a cube, then safety surfacing is required. (Saddle on top of the Cube).
3. Low activities such as our Cube, Balance Board, Beam, Plank and Body Rocker may be compliantly used on well-maintained DRY grass.
4. Please ensure **all** equipment is set up on a flat stable surface. It is very important that all attachments are installed level and square with the Cubes
5. When setting up clusters of equipment, pay particular attention to adjacent equipment, with the view of potential trip, fall or entrapment issues (see page 19 of your NZ Handbook)

## Individual Equipment Pieces

### Planks:

Our Planks are CNC cut from NZ plywood. They have 12mm top and bottoms with 24mm side walls and another 12mm brace running through the middle. Making them this way keeps the weight down for safety and ease of handling, they have no cracking issues and maintain their strength. All surfaces and edges are rounded and sanded smooth.

The wood finish is designed to be rough and natural so when children climb on it, they receive sensory feedback. Children should always use the equipment with bare feet.

To maintain upkeep, use a water based exterior grade polyurethane. Do not use sandpaper as this will remove the rough finish.

### Beams:

Our Beams are CNC cut from NZ plywood. They have 12mm top and bottoms with 24mm side walls. Making them this way keeps the weight down for safety and ease of handling, they have no cracking issues and maintain their strength. All surfaces and edges are rounded and sanded smooth.

The wood finish is designed to be rough and natural so when children climb on it, they receive sensory feedback. Children should always use the equipment with bare feet.

To maintain upkeep, use a water based exterior grade polyurethane. Do not use sandpaper as this will remove the rough finish.

### Ladders:

Our Ladders are CNC cut from NZ plywood and pine. They have 35mm plywood sides and 32mm pine dowel runners. The dowel runners are rebated into the sides for strength. All surfaces and edges are rounded and sanded smooth.

The wood finish is designed to be rough and natural so when children climb on it, they receive sensory feedback. Children should always use the equipment with bare feet.

To maintain upkeep, use a water based exterior grade polyurethane. Do not use sandpaper as this will remove the rough finish.

### Balance Boards:

Our Balance Boards are CNC cut from 16mm MDF with a solid pine block. All surfaces and edges are rounded and sanded smooth.

The wood finish is designed to be rough and natural so when children climb on it, they receive sensory feedback. Children should always use the equipment with bare feet.

To maintain upkeep, use a water based exterior grade polyurethane. Do not use sandpaper as this will remove the rough finish.

## Smart Shapes:

Our Smart Shapes and stands are CNC cut from 12mm NZ plywood. All surfaces and edges are rounded and sanded smooth.

The wood finish is designed to be rough and natural so when children climb on it, they receive sensory feedback. Children should always use the equipment with bare feet.

To maintain upkeep, use a water based exterior grade polyurethane. Do not use sandpaper as this will remove the rough finish.

## Large Body Rocker:

Our Large Body Rocker are CNC cut from 12mm NZ plywood and Pine. All surfaces and edges are rounded and sanded smooth.

The wood finish is designed to be rough and natural so when children climb on it, they receive sensory feedback. Children should always use the equipment with bare feet.

To maintain upkeep, use a water based exterior grade polyurethane. Do not use sandpaper as this will remove the rough finish.

## Scooter Board:

Our Scooter Boards are made from 16mm MDF, 50mm wheels and carpeted top. All surfaces and edges are rounded and sanded smooth.

The wood finish is designed to be rough and natural so when children climb on it, they receive sensory feedback. Children should always use the equipment with bare feet.

To maintain upkeep, use a water based exterior grade polyurethane. Do not use sandpaper as this will remove the rough finish.

## Launch Board:

Our Launch Boards are made with 18mm NZ plywood and pine dowel. All surfaces and edges are rounded and sanded smooth.

The wood finish is designed to be rough and natural so when children climb on it, they receive sensory feedback. Children should always use the equipment with bare feet.

To maintain upkeep, use a water based exterior grade polyurethane. Do not use sandpaper as this will remove the rough finish.

## Dizzy Giddy

Our Dizzy Giddy is made out of moulded plastic and baked at high temperatures to maintain shape.

It is especially designed to provide a slow vestibular and core workout with a rim handle to protect fingers as the Dizzy Giddy moves in a circular direction.

Children should always sit cross legged in the Dizzy Giddy one person at a time, unless otherwise directed by a teacher.

Our Dizzy Giddy comes with a teaching program that provides different experiences including standing in it while moving. These activities must be supervised by a teacher at all times.

## Hi Lo Bar

Our High Lo Bar is made from a combination of metal weights and string and is designed to be used with our Cones.

The high Low bar is designed to adjust to any height easily and quickly for over or under activities and the weighted design keeps the bar in place during play.

# Specifications and Warranty

## Specifications

Cubes, Planks, Ladders, Beams, Launch Boards, Shapes and Stands, Saddles, Double Body Rockers.

Manufactured from **sustainable NZ Radiata plantation renewable resource as per FSC Certificate SGS-COC-009021**. Internal framing is H3 and H4 treated pine. All panels are glued and stapled and/or screwed, with a Nontoxic finish.

### Balance Board

Manufactured from MDF and clear coated. Base is glued and screwed to rocker block.

### Dizzy Giddy and Hi Lo Bar

Made within New Zealand from PVC plastic.

### Happy Sticks

Made from **sustainable NZ Radiata plantation renewable resource as per FSC Certificate SGS-COC-009021**, pine 22mm dowel. Labels digitally printed 4 colour process & gloss laminated printed on machine coated permanent material.

### Bean Bags

Cotton fabric with uPVC pallets.

Stilts, Moon Hoppers, Balloonees, Skipping Ropes, Rebound Nets, Ribbon Streamers, Large Balls.

All items are sourced within New Zealand. Please contact Tastech Services for specific information on an item.

## Warranty

For wooden equipment, Tastech Services Ltd warrants, if any component or part thereof is found to have undergone structural failure due to defective workmanship or material, within 2 years from date of purchase. Tastech Services Ltd, shall repair or replace the part or component.

For non-wooden items, Tastech Services Ltd warrants, if any component or part thereof fails or breaks within 1 year from date of purchase. Tastech Services Ltd, shall repair or replace the part or component.

This warranty excludes:

- Cosmetic items such as scratches, dents, fading, weathering, vandalism, neglect, lack of maintenance or the natural aging process of timber or fair wear and tear.  
(N.B. As timber is a natural material, there **will** be some movement and splitting as part of the weathering/aging process).
- Products or components subjected to addition, substitution, modification, altered or repaired by persons other than those previously designated or approved by Tastech Services Ltd

Tastech Services Ltd's product range is being continuously developed and improved. We therefore reserve the right to make modifications, additions and deletions without notice. There may be some variation between current stock and items as published.

# Tastech Services Ltd Inspection Checklist

It is the responsibility of the ECE owner / manager to ensure regular inspections and maintenance of all equipment and safety surfacing. The minimum frequency is as listed. The frequency may need to be increased if the equipment is subject to heavy use, vandalism or harsh conditions. **Use NZS 5828: 2015 and handbook SNZ HB 5828.2:2006.**

There are 3 types of inspections:

- **Routine Visual** - Identifying obvious hazards which may result from vandalism, use, or weather conditions. These inspections are daily or weekly.
- **Operational** - More detailed checks on operation, stability, wear and tear. These are generally 1 - 3 months.
- **Annual** - Main inspection carried out at least every 12 months. Checks overall level of safety of equipment, foundations and surfaces. Check for evidence of rotting, corrosion, changes in safety of equipment, as a result of repairs, or alterations.

N.B. Replacement parts or alterations must comply with Tastech Services Ltd specifications. Any unauthorised alterations, additions or replacements may compromise warranty or liability.

## **Documentation**

Records should be kept of all actions taken as part of safety management.

**Routine Visual Playground Inspection (Daily or Weekly)**

Date:

Location:

Signed by:

Items for Assessment	Hazard	Risk 1-5 Low - High	Action
<b>Surfacing:</b> Loose fill Check depth is 300mm min. Check for foreign objects and contamination			
Synthetic Check condition, ensure no trip points or foreign objects.			

**Mobile Equipment:**

<b>Mobile Equipment General:</b> Check for obvious damage and general wear Check all equipment is stable and securely attached. Ensure all equipment is within safety surfacing fall zones and guidelines. Check for potential entrapment hazards.			
<b>Slides:</b> Check for damage or foreign objects. Ensure Slides are securely and correctly attached to the saddle. Check there is a minimum of 1.5m safety			
<b>Planks:</b> Check for protruding staples or splinters			
<b>Ladders:</b> Check for damage or foreign objects. Ensure Ladders are securely and correctly attached to the saddle. Check there is a minimum of 1.5m safety			

**Operational Playground Inspection (Monthly, Quarterly or each Term)**

Date:

Location:

Signed by:

Items for Assessment	Hazard	Risk 1-5 Low - High	Action
<b>Surfacing:</b> Loose fill Check depth is 300mm min. Check for foreign objects and contamination			
Synthetic Check condition, ensure no trip points or foreign objects. Check for surface deterioration or sub-surface failure.			
<b>Mobile Playground Equipment:</b>			
<b>Mobile Equipment General:</b> Check for obvious damage, splintering, missing screws, 'D' shackles, nails or bolts. Check ropes for cuts and general wear. Pay particular attention to attachment points for excessive wear. Check for excessive sagging and possible entrapment. Check all equipment is stable and securely attached. Ensure all equipment is within safety surfacing fall zones and guidelines. Check for potential entrapment hazards. Check all attachment hooks are in good condition. Check safety caps are in place and check rocks and other fittings are secure.			
<b>Cubes:</b> Check for damage. Check for water penetration into timber (bulging).			
<b>Slides:</b> Check for damage or foreign objects. Ensure Slides are securely and safely attached to the saddle. Check there is a minimum of 1.5m safety surfacing from the base of the slide.			
<b>Planks:</b> Check for protruding staples or splinters			

Items for Assessment	Hazard	Risk 1-5 Low – High	Action
<b>General:</b> Is there any other problem or hazard not covered in the above?			

<p><b>Annual Playground Inspection (Annually)</b> Location:</p> <p>This requires detailed knowledge of the NZ Standards, training in the use of entrapment tools, fall zones and inspection procedures.</p>		<p>Date:</p> <p>Signed by:</p>	
Items for Assessment	Hazard	Risk 1-5 Low - High	Action
<p><b>Surfacing:</b> Pay particular attention to equipment high use / wear area. Loose fill Check depth is 300mm min. Check for foreign objects and contamination</p>			
<p>Synthetic Check condition, ensure no trip points or foreign objects. Check for surface deterioration or sub-surface failure.</p>			
<b>Mobile Playground Equipment:</b>			
<p><b>Mobile General Equipment:</b> Check for obvious damage, splintering, missing screws, 'D' shackles, nails or bolts. Check ropes for cuts and general wear. Pay particular attention to attachment points for excessive wear. Check for excessive sagging and possible entrapment. Check all equipment is stable and securely attached. Ensure all equipment is within safety surfacing fall zones and guidelines. Check for potential entrapment hazards. Check all attachment hooks are in good condition. Check safety caps are in place and check rocks and other fittings are secure.</p>			
<p><b>Cubes:</b> Check for damage. Check for water penetration into timber (bulging).</p>			
<p><b>Slides:</b> Check for damage or foreign objects. Ensure Slides are securely attached at top and Curved Slide has slide stand attached correctly and is bearing most of the weight of the Slide. Check there is a minimum of 1.5m safety surfacing from the base of the slide. Check foam rubber padding is attached to underside at top of Bannister, Straight and Curved Slides ie no gaps between Slide base and top of Cube.</p>			
<p><b>Planks:</b> Check for protruding screws, loose cleats or splinters Check Planks have been oiled at least 6 monthly.</p>			

<b>Fixed Equipment</b>			
<p><b>Entrapment:</b> Check for entrapment potential with entrapment tools.</p>			
<p><b>Decks and timber componentry:</b> Check for damage, excessive cracking, splintering, protrusion of screws, nails or fixings. Check foundations and structures are free of movement, rot, corrosion etc. Are all handrails, guardrails, barriers, handgrips, clip on bars, bolts and fixings secure? Check for moss or mould build-up on traffic services.</p>			