

■ Playground Surfacing Compliance Checklist

Based on SANS 51177: Impact-Attenuating Playground Surfacing

Use this checklist to assess whether your playground meets South African safety requirements.

1. Standards & Certification

- Surfacing complies with SANS 51177 (aligned with EN 1177 / ASTM F1292).
- Certificate of compliance/testing results available for installed surface.
- Installation carried out by a qualified, trained contractor.

2. Safety & Fall Heights

- Surfacing thickness matches the Critical Fall Height (CFH) of the highest equipment.
- Fall zones (under and around equipment) are fully covered by compliant surfacing.
- No hard edges, exposed concrete, or hazards in fall zones.

3. Installation & Base Preparation

- Installed on a suitable, stable base (concrete/asphalt or properly compacted stone).
- No ponding water or poor drainage beneath/around surfacing.
- Seams, joins, or layers are secure with no trip hazards.

4. Condition & Maintenance

- Surface is free of holes, cracks, lifting, or excessive wear.
- No foreign objects, sharp items, or contaminants present.
- Maintenance schedule in place (regular inspections, cleaning, and repairs logged).

5. Documentation & Insurance

- Installation and compliance certificates filed and accessible.
- Maintenance records kept up to date.
- Insurance cover confirmed and not at risk due to non-compliance.

■■ Warning:	Failure to comply with SANS 51177 may expose playground owners to civil liability, criminal prosecution
■ Action:	Have your playground audited and certified to ensure it is safe, compliant, and legally defensible.