

Guide

Responsibilities of owners and operators of institutional recreational equipment in Canada

The CAN/CSA Z614 safety standard on children's playground equipment and surfacing

This guide is intended for people in charge of early childhood centres, private daycare centres, schools, municipalities, and any other public places equipped with play structures.

Includes: a series of handy sheets to help you maintain, check and repair your play equipment.



The CAN/CSA Z614 standard

The first version of the children's playground equipment and surfacing Canadian standard was published in 1990.

Published by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), the standard CAN/CSA Z614 provides a set of technical requirements and principles for the design, construction, installation, maintenance and inspection of public outdoor play areas and equipment (including protective surfaces) for children aged 18 months to 12 years.

While most of the standard is aimed at product designers, planners and installers, some sections are aimed at playground

equipment owners and operators, as they deal **with maintenance, regular checks and repairs to maintain the structural integrity**, quality of cushioning surfaces, and safety of the various components.

Imagine using a car that wasn't inspected and maintained – we all agree that it would become a public hazard before long. The same goes for recreational equipment.

Don't let your recreational equipment become a hazard to young users.

Have a good read!



To verify product certification, visit www.ipema.org



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The International Play Equipment Manufacturers Association (IPEMA) provides third-party certification to ensure public play equipment and surfacing material product compliance with specific ASTM and/or CSA standards. Each product promoted in this flyer, if certified by IPEMA, includes the name and model number for you to search the IPEMA website for verification purposes.

To verify product certification, visit www.ipema.org and conduct a search.

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How to carry out your maintenance, checks and repairs?

A set of handy leaflets will help you carry out maintenance, checks and repairs.

- Playground map
- Information on equipment and control periodicity
- Simple and intermediate control sheet
- In-depth control sheet
- Deterioration report sheet

You can always reach us at
1 877 363-2687 / service@jambette.com

Need replacement parts or accessories to repair your play modules?



Jambette is pleased to offer its customers online shopping for a selection of parts, replacement accessories and small products at jambetteboutik.com

Take some time to visit us!



Control sheets

Our sheets will help you maintain, check and repair your play equipment. Here are some guidelines for filling them out:

1 - SHEET: PLAYGROUND MAP

Draw up a plan of your playground, showing its location and general structure, as well as the layout of the equipment.

2 - SHEET: INFORMATION ON EQUIPMENT AND CONTROL PERIODICITY

Set control periodicity according to the intensity of use of the equipment

NOTE: For subsequent controls, fill a separate sheet for each piece of equipment.

For any observed deterioration, complete the «**deterioration report**» sheet.

3 - SHEET: SIMPLE AND INTERMEDIATE CHECKS

(Simple control: daily or weekly)

Quick visual check to identify obvious hazards that may result from intensive use, vandalism or specific weather conditions.

For example:

- Broken or missing elements (seats, steps, rungs, railings)
- Sharp edges, protruding or pointed elements
- Wear of certain elements (ropes, chains)
- Foundations (visible, loose)
- Ground surfaces (level 0, sand raking or other)
- Removal of foreign bodies (glass, dirt)
- Signage and markings

This inspection can be carried out by the technical departments.

4 - SHEET: SIMPLE AND INTERMEDIATE CONTROL

(Intermediate control: monthly or quarterly)

A more thorough check than the simple control, designed to verify the equipment's operation and stability, and in particular to detect any potential signs of wear.

For example:

In addition to simple control elements

- Stability (foundations, anchors)
- Pinching, jamming or crushing points
- Moving mechanical devices (protection, wear, working order)
- Surface appearance (rust or other corrosion)

This service can be carried out by a person in charge of infrastructure maintenance.

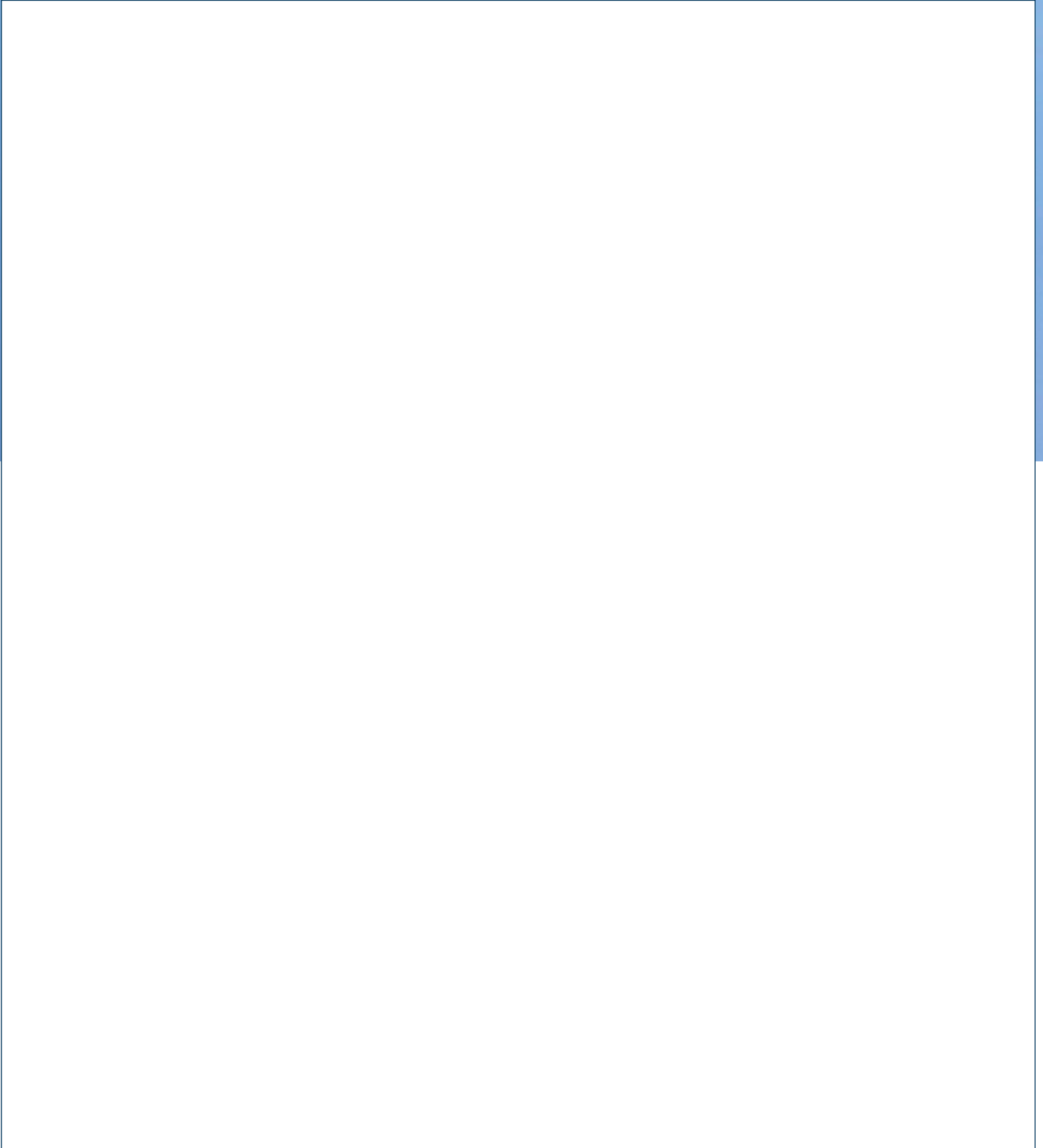
5 - SHEET: IN-DEPTH CONTROL (semi-annual or annual)

A detailed inspection of the structure to determine the overall safety of equipment, foundations and surfaces. This control may require excavation or dismantling of certain parts.

This control can be carried out either in-house, provided that the technical departments have the appropriate equipment and necessary technical skills, or by calling in an outside organization specialized in this type of inspection.



Playground map



Information on equipment and control periodicity

Type of equipment	Location, place, reference on plan	Date of commissioning

Type of control	Periodicity	Person or organization in charge of control
Simple		
Intermediate		
In-depth		

Simple and intermediate control

Identification and location of equipment: _____

Elements to check; if any deterioration is observed, fill in the «deterioration» sheet

Control date	Initials	Ground	Level 0	Anchor point	Posts	Floors	Panels	Accessories	Slide	Landing surface	Springs	Ropes

Write «good» or «poor» in each box according to the equipment's condition.

Deterioration

Identification and location of equipment: _____

Date	
Degradation(s) observed	
Measure(s) taken	
Last name, first name and signature of person in charge of control	

Corrective measures:

- Physical access ban issued on _____
- Dismantling carried out on _____
- Restoration work carried out on _____
- Nature of the work _____
- Back in service on _____

Last name, first name, signature

In-depth control

Identification and location of equipment: _____

Note the state of wear (corrosion, rot, splinters, protruding parts, risk of pitting, cuts, stability, etc.) and cleanliness of the various elements.

Elements	Condition		Comments
	Good	Poor	
General condition (disrepair, maintenance, vandalism, etc.)			
Ground cleanliness and condition			
Foundations			
Level 0 (Indication of level 0 on posts or structure)			
Signage			
Safety surface			
General structure stability			
Presence of protruding screws or sharp edges			
Handrail			
Railing / Balustrade			
Climbing rope / Cables (Rope sealed to the ground and taut)			
Tubes (sealed ends)			

Maintenance and upkeep plan for play areas

Elements	Condition		Comments
	Good	Poor	
Access ladder			
Stairs			
Climbing device			
Slide			
Platform			
Spring			
Rotation axis			

Person or organization in charge of control _____

Date of control _____

Signature _____

The following is a list and brief summary of the articles of the Canadian standard CAN/CSA Z614 that concern recreational equipment owners and operators. Maintenance, verification (inspections) and repair obligations are detailed herein.

Note:

These article summaries are our own interpretation. A full reading of the standard's articles will give you all the precision they require, supported by appendices and figures.

Link to the full standard:

<https://www.csagroup.org/store/product/CSA%20Z614%3A20%20Standard%20and%20Redline/>

SECTION 1, scope

- 1.1** This standard is intended for equipment designed for children aged 18 months to 12 years.
- 1.2** This standard takes into account the physical size, special characteristics, and developmental needs of children.
- 1.3** This standard applies to outdoor public-use playground equipment.
- 1.4** This standard touches on the design, manufacture, installation, and maintenance of playground equipment and its related spaces.
- 1.5** This standard encourages good practice in the field.
- 1.6** This standard is designed to minimize injuries and reduce hazards.
- 1.7** This standard applies to play areas and equipment designed, manufactured and installed after the date of publication of this standard, and to additions to existing equipment and areas made after the same date of publication.
- 1.8** This standard excludes elements which are not primarily used for play, such as furnishings, fences, etc. Free play equipment is also not covered in this standard.
- 1.9** This standard does not apply
- To sports equipment
 - To slides that end in water
 - To flexible equipment located in public places where public access is controlled
 - To residential equipment
 - To amusement parks
 - To family daycare centres
 - To adventure playgrounds used under adult supervision
- 1.10** In this standard, “shall” is used to express a requirement, “should” is used to express a recommendation, “may” is used to express an option.

SECTION 11, inspection and maintenance

11.1 General information

- 11.1.1** A budget shall be set aside for maintenance and repairs.
- 11.1.2** A regular maintenance program shall be established.

11.2 Maintenance

- 11.2.1** A maintenance program shall be drawn up for each piece of play equipment.
- 11.2.2** The identity of the owner or operator shall be indicated on the premises.
- 11.2.3** A manufacturer provided checklist may be used to carry out inspections.
- 11.2.4** The standard contains a general checklist which may also be used.
- 11.2.5** An injury register shall be kept up to date.
- 11.2.6** Equipment and protective coatings shall be inspected with reference also to the documentation of the various manufacturers.

11.3 Play area inspection

- 11.3.1** General information
- 11.3.2** Inspection frequency may vary depending on equipment use, weather conditions, etc.
- 11.3.3** Daily/weekly visual inspection.
- 11.3.4** Detailed monthly inspection.
- 11.3.5** Full written annual report.

11.4 Play areas repairs

- 11.4.1** Any defect shall be promptly reported and repaired in accordance with this standard.
- 11.4.2** Repairs shall be carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

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