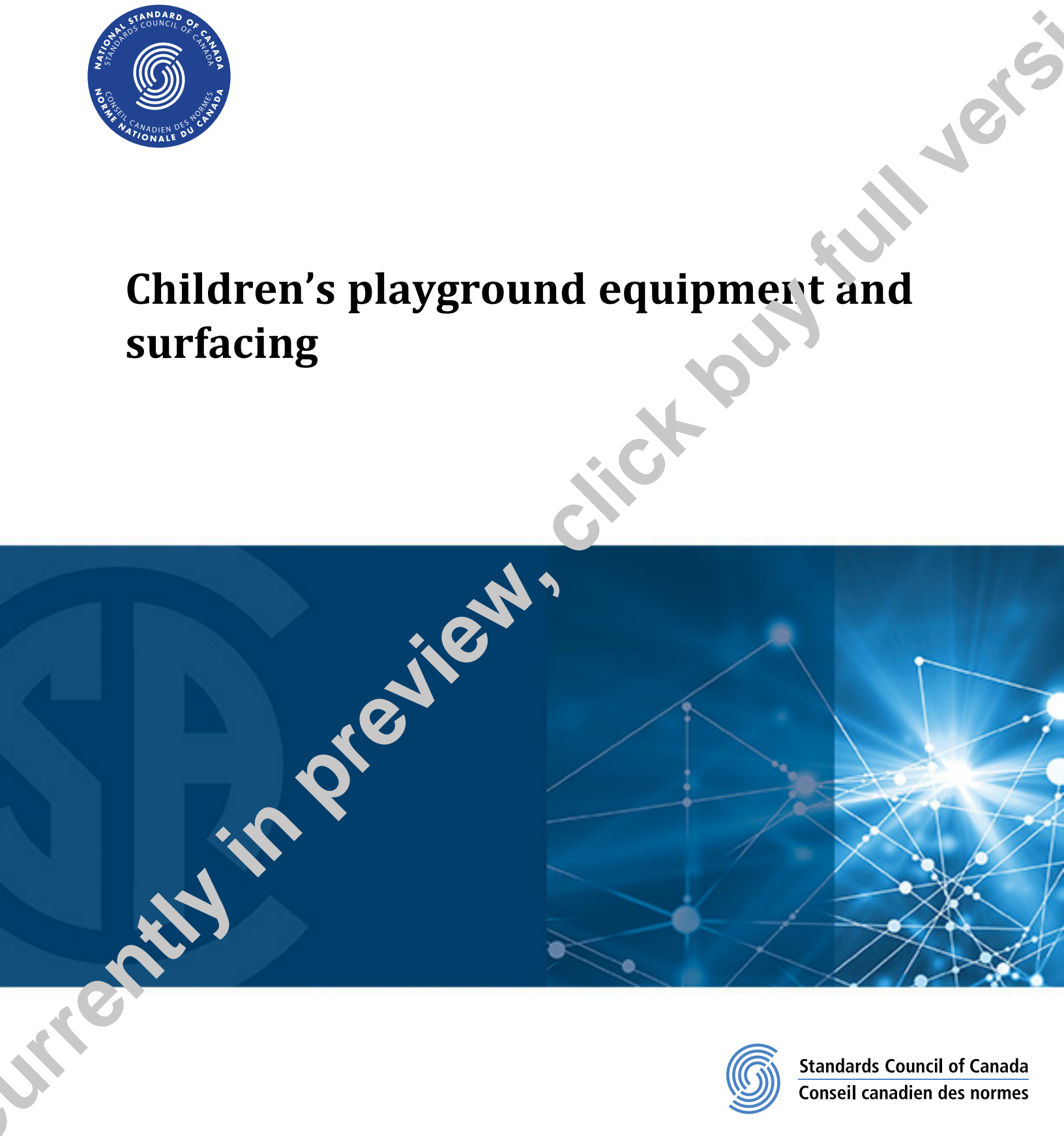




CSA Z614:20
National Standard of Canada



Children's playground equipment and surfacing



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**Children's playground equipment
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Contents

Technical Committee on Children's Playgrounds and Equipment 7

Preface 10

0 Introduction 11

1 Scope 11

2 Reference publications 13

3 Definitions 13

4 User age groups 18

5 Levels of supervision 18

6 Compliance 18

7 Materials 19

7.1 General requirements 19

7.2 Metals 19

7.3 Coatings 19

7.4 Natural materials 19

7.4.1 Wood 19

7.4.2 Stone 19

7.4.3 Water 19

7.5 Plastics 19

7.6 Ropes 20

7.7 Hazardous substances 20

7.8 Components 20

7.8.1 Fasteners 20

7.8.2 Moving suspended elements 20

7.8.3 Tires 20

8 Installation 20

8.1 Designer's or manufacturer's responsibilities 20

8.2 Owner's, operator's or installer's responsibilities 20

8.3 Construction 21

8.3.1 Foundations 21

8.3.2 Procedures 21

9 Structural integrity 21

9.1 General 21

9.2 Stability 22

9.3 Loading test criteria 22

9.4 Strength of swing components and structures 22

9.5 Components and structures subjected to vertical loads 23

9.5.1 General 23

9.5.2	General test	23
9.5.3	Individual longitudinal components	23
9.5.4	Structures containing two or more longitudinal components	23
9.5.5	Individual surfaces	24
9.5.6	Slide bedways	24
9.5.7	Components with designated occupancy	25
9.6	Components subjected to lateral loads	25
9.6.1	General	25
9.6.2	Accidental concentrated load test	25
9.6.3	Surge distributed load test	25
9.7	Net climbers	25
9.7.1	Engineering data	25
9.7.2	Guy wires or suspension wires	25
9.7.3	Number of users for structural calculations	26
9.8	Alternatives to testing for structural integrity	26

10 Surfacing 26

10.1	Energy absorbency of a surfacing material	26
10.2	Critical height	26
10.3	Acceptability of various surfacing materials	27
10.4	Maintenance of protective surfacing	28

11 Inspection and maintenance 29

11.1	General	29
11.1.1	Budgeting	29
11.1.2	Maintenance program	29
11.2	Maintenance	29
11.3	Inspection of the playground	30
11.3.1	General	30
11.3.3	Daily/weekly visual inspection	30
11.3.4	Detailed monthly inspection	30
11.3.5	Annual comprehensive written report	30
11.4	Repairs in playgrounds	31

12 Performance requirements 31

12.1	Tolerances	31
12.2	Head and neck entrapment	31
12.2.1	General requirements	31
12.2.2	Accessible openings	32
12.2.3	Non-accessible completely bounded openings	32
12.2.4	Partially bounded openings	33
12.2.5	Angular portions of openings	34
12.3	Sharp points, sharp edges, protrusions, and surfaces	34
12.3.1	General	34
12.3.2	Sharp points and sharp edges	35
12.3.3	Protrusions and projections	35
12.3.4	Surfaces	36
12.4	Entanglement	36
12.4.1	Protection against entanglement	36

12.4.2	Projections from a horizontal plane	36
12.4.3	Exposed bolt end projections	36
12.4.4	Projections that increase in size	36
12.4.5	Connecting devices	36
12.4.6	Slides and protrusions adjacent to slides	37
12.4.7	Sliding poles	38
12.5	Crush or shear point	38
12.5.1	General	38
12.5.2	Requirements	38
12.5.3	Exemptions	39
12.6	Suspended hazards	39
12.6.1	General requirements	39
12.6.2	Looping	39
12.6.3	Exemptions	39
12.7	Elevated surfaces	40
13	Requirements for access/egress	40
13.1	Stepladders, stairways, and ramps	40
13.1.1	Spacing	40
13.1.2	Design	40
13.1.3	Slope	40
13.1.4	Handrails	40
13.2	Other means of access	41
13.2.1	Spiral stairways	41
13.2.2	Climbers	42
13.3	Transition from access to platform	42
13.4	Platforms, landings, walkways, ramps, stairways, and designated transitional surfaces	42
13.4.1	General	42
13.4.2	Drainage	43
13.4.3	Guardrails	43
13.4.4	Protective barriers	43
13.4.5	Adjacent platforms	44
14	Playground layout	45
14.1	Protective surfacing and no-encroachment zones	45
14.1.1	Protective surfacing zone	45
14.1.2	No-encroachment zone	45
14.1.3	No-encroachment zone (embankment slides)	45
14.2	Stationary equipment (excluding slides)	45
14.2.1	General	45
14.2.2	Locking, springing equipment	46
14.3	Rotating equipment	46
14.4	Swings	47
14.4.1	Single axis swings	47
14.4.2	Rotating swings	48
14.4.3	Combination swings	48
14.5	Slides	48
14.6	Embankment slides	49
14.7	Track rides	49

14.8	Cable rides	49
14.9	Composite playstructures	49
14.10	Placement of playstructures and equipment	50
14.11	Small-children's fenced playgrounds	50
15	Equipment	50
15.1	General	50
15.2	Balance beams	51
15.3	Climbers	51
15.4	Upper body equipment	51
15.5	Sliding poles	52
15.6	Slides	53
15.6.1	General	53
15.6.2	Starting area	53
15.6.3	Sitting section	54
15.6.4	Sliding section entrance	54
15.6.5	Sliding section	54
15.6.6	Exit section	55
15.6.7	Slide clearance zones	56
15.6.8	Roller slides	56
15.6.9	Embankment slides	56
15.7	Swings	57
15.7.1	Placement	57
15.7.2	Support structure	57
15.7.3	Hangers	57
15.7.5	Clearances	58
15.7.6	Fall height	59
15.7.7	Suspended element impact attenuation testing	59
15.8	Swinging exercise rings and trapeze bars	60
15.9	Vertical rotating equipment	60
15.9.1	Description	60
15.9.2	Location	60
15.9.3	Equipment configuration	61
15.9.4	Handgrips	60
15.9.5	Clearance between moving parts	61
15.9.6	Oscillation	61
15.9.7	Rotating equipment usage	61
15.9.8	Fall height	61
15.9.9	Handgrips	62
15.10	See-saws	62
15.10.1	Fulcrum see-saws	62
15.10.2	Shock-absorbing mechanisms	62
15.10.3	Crush or shear point	62
15.10.4	Distance between see-saws on one playstructure	62
15.10.5	Handgrips	62
15.10.6	Footrests	62
15.10.7	Maximum limits	62
15.10.8	Fall height	63
15.11	Rocking/springing equipment	63

15.12	Log rolls	63
15.13	Track rides	64
15.13.1	General	64
15.13.2	Landings	64
15.13.3	Riding zone	64
15.13.4	Handgripping components	64
15.13.5	Fall height	64
15.14	Pulley or cable rides	64
15.14.1	General	64
15.14.2	Fall height	65
15.14.3	Distances for cable and handle	65
15.14.4	Speed of pulley	65
15.14.5	Arrival and starting stations	65
15.14.6	Stoppers	65
15.14.7	Pulley	66
15.14.8	Handgrips	66
15.14.9	Cable	66
15.15	Climbing net structures	67
15.15.1	Materials	67
15.15.2	Connections	67
15.16	Roofs or shade elements	68
15.17	Elevated platforms	68
15.18	Drainage	69
15.19	Equipment support posts	69
16	Identification and information	69
16.1	General	69
16.2	Age-specific equipment	69
16.3	Labelling	69
16.3.1	Surface level markers	69
16.3.2	Warning labels for enclosed swing seats and swing seats designed with additional support assembly	69
16.3.3	Non-injurious labelling	70
16.3.4	Placement/location of the label	70
16.3.5	Attachment	70
16.3.6	Replacement	70
16.4	Information	70
16.4.1	Space	70
16.4.2	Maintenance instructions	70
16.5	Records	70

Annex A (informative)	— Advantages of using playground equipment for the children's development	133
Annex B (informative)	— Sample maintenance/inspection checklist	136
Annex C (informative)	— Suggested injury report form	145
Annex D (informative)	— Recommended protective surfacing	148
Annex E (informative)	— Annual cost considerations	155
Annex F (informative)	— Space requirements for recommended play activities	156
Annex G (informative)	— Recommendations for miscellaneous playground elements	162

Annex H (informative) — Children's playgrounds and equipment that are accessible to persons with disabilities 168

Annex I (informative) — A protocol for testing partially bounded openings 186

Annex J (informative) — Hazard identification and risk assessment 189

Annex K (informative) — Thermal comfort 202

Preface

This is the sixth edition of CSA Z614, *Children's playground equipment and surfacing*. It supersedes the previous editions, published in 2014, 2007, 2003, 1998, and 1990 under the title *Children's playspaces and equipment*.

Changes to this edition include the following:

- a) added a clause and supporting Annex [J](#) to allow for new play components that might not specifically fit into the prescriptive play component types listed in this Standard;
- b) modified the user age groups to account for children of different abilities;
- c) expanded on the developmental needs of children;
- d) changes to the acceptability of various surfacing materials where the fall height is not greater than 450 mm;
- e) climbing net structures requirements have been harmonized with ASTM F1487;
- f) updated Annex [H](#) to improve clarity and make changes to the elevated component counts;
- g) updated Table [G.1](#); and
- h) added a new annex on thermal comfort (Annex [K](#)).

This Standard was prepared by the Technical Committee on Children's Playgrounds and Equipment, under the jurisdiction of the Strategic Steering Committee on Health and Well-Being, and has been formally approved by the Technical Committee.

This Standard has been developed in compliance with Standards Council of Canada requirements for National Standards of Canada. It has been published as a National Standard of Canada by CSA Group.

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 - c) *wording of the proposed change; and*
 - d) *rationale for the change.*

CSA Z614:20

Children's playground equipment and surfacing

0 Introduction

Playgrounds that comply with this Standard will not prevent all injuries; a shared responsibility exists among users, owners/operators, and manufacturers. Well-designed and well-constructed playgrounds in compliance with the requirements of this Standard can help improve safety. However, supervision of children is still vital to safe play. Similarly, proper maintenance of the playground, equipment, and appropriate protective surfacing materials will further reduce injuries.

1 Scope

1.1

This Standard provides requirements for public-use playground equipment intended for use by children aged 18 months to 12 years, with anthropometric limits based on the 95th percentile.

Notes:

- 1) *The level of challenge required and desired by children varies enormously with age, physical development, and emotional development; therefore, it is almost impossible to design a piece of playground equipment that meets the needs of all children. Children younger than 18 months and children aged 13 years and older do not usually use the equipment covered in this Standard.*
- 2) *The sixth year of a child's life (when the child is five years old) is accepted as a transitional year. Consequently, the requirements in this Standard are split into two age groupings: 18 months to 5 years and 5 years to 12 years. The overlap of the 5-year-old child is deliberate and acknowledges the transitional nature of the sixth year of life.*

1.2

This Standard takes into account the physical size, special characteristics, and developmental needs of children so that appropriate and challenging play experiences are provided.

1.3

This Standard applies to outdoor public-use playground equipment found at schools, parks, childcare facilities, institutions, multiple-family dwellings, private resorts and recreation developments, restaurants, and other areas of public use. See Clause [3](#).

1.4

This Standard contains recommendations on technical requirements and practices applicable to the design, manufacture/construction, installation, maintenance, and inspection of public-use playground equipment and its related spaces. The provider of each of these areas is responsible for meeting the applicable requirements and recommendations of each, but it is the owner/operator's responsibility to confirm if the requirements and recommendations of this Standard are followed.