

SURFACES



LIMITING USE OF WOODCHIPS, TIRE CHIPS, AND SAND

ACCESSIBLE FOAM SURFACE
(rather than alternative ground surface)

CLEAR AND EVEN ACCESSIBLE PATHS
(as opposed to paths with debris and uneven surfaces)



This brochure was created by Marie Saldi through the Gopen Fellowship so that communities can create all inclusive playgrounds for children of all abilities.

For more information or for a list of all-inclusive playgrounds in Massachusetts, visit
www.communityinclusion.org/inclusiveplaygrounds
or
www.mass.gov/mddc

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MASSACHUSETTS DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES NETWORK



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—Marie Saldi

BEST PRACTICES FOR ALL-INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUNDS



RAMPS AND ACCESS POINTS



WIDE RAMPS AND TURNING AREAS
(as opposed to narrow ramps and turning spaces)

EXTRA HANDRAILS
(rather than only one handrail)

RAMP GOING THROUGHOUT THE PLAYGROUND
(as opposed to a short ramp, which stops and prevents access to the rest of the playground)

ACCESSIBLE SWINGS



SWINGS THAT YOU CAN BE TRANSFERRED ONTO. SWINGS THAT HAVE A SMALL RAMP WHICH YOU CAN ROLL ON TO

SAFETY STRAPS AND DIRECTIONS FOR HOW TO USE THE SWING (as opposed to swings without safety precautions)

REGULARLY MAINTAINED
(so the swing is not broken or crooked)

EQUAL RATIO BETWEEN ACCESSIBLE AND NON-ACCESSIBLE SWINGS (instead of some swing sets which do not have any accessible swings or have a higher ratio of traditional swings to the number of accessible swings)

SLIDES



A LARGE, EASY TO ACCESS ENTRANCE TO THE SLIDE (as opposed to a small space or a difficult transfer from the play structure)

LOWER TO THE GROUND
(rather than too high or too steep)

SLIDES WITH SENSORY ASPECTS SUCH AS THOSE DESIGNED FROM ROLLERS OR WITH RIDGES

ELEVATED COMPONENTS



LIMITING USE OF STEPS
(easy access points)

ELEVATED COMPONENTS WHICH ARE EASY TO WHEEL UP TO (rather than components which are hard to reach)

LEARNING BOARDS



MULTI-LANGUAGE
SIGN LANGUAGE
BRAILLE

GROUND COMPONENTS



GROUND COMPONENTS ON ACCESSIBLE SURFACES
(as opposed to putting ground components on inaccessible surfaces)

LOWER GROUND COMPONENTS
(rather than components which are too high and difficult to reach)

GROUND COMPONENTS WHICH ARE EASY TO WHEEL UP TO (rather than components which are hard to reach)

PLAYGROUND SURROUNDINGS



ACCESSIBLE PICNIC AND SANDBOX AREAS