

Artificial sports surfaces —

Part 4: Specification for surfaces for multi-sports use

Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted by the Textiles and Clothing Standards Policy Committee (TCM/-) to Technical Committee TCM/57, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- Association of Playing Fields and Landscape Managers
- British Association of Landscape Industries
- British Carpet Manufacturers' Association Ltd.
- British Floor Covering Manufacturers' Association
- British Sports and Allied Industries Federation
- British Textile Technology Group
- Consumer Policy Committee of BSI
- Contract Flooring Association
- Department of the Environment (Building Research Establishment)
- Fibre Bonded Carpet Manufacturers' Association
- Fibre Building Board Organization (FIDOR)
- Home Office
- Institute of Groundsmanship
- Institute of Leisure and Amenity Management
- International Association for Sports Surface Sciences
- National Playing Fields Association
- National Turfgrass Council
- RAPRA Technology Ltd.
- Sports Council
- Sports Turf Research Institute
- Synthetic Sports Surface Association
- Tennis Court Constructors' Federation (TCCF)
- Textile Institute

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Textiles and Clothing Standards Policy Committee, was published under the authority of the Board of BSI and comes into effect on 31 January 1991

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Foreword

This Part of BS 7044 has been prepared under the direction of the Textiles and Clothing Standards Policy Committee.

It is based on Part 2 of the Sports Council Specification for Artificial Sports Surfaces, 1984, but has been significantly rearranged and revised. Ideally, all sports activities would have the surface individually specified, but economic pressures dictate that in many installations a number of sports have to be played in the same space and often on the same surface. For this reason, requirements for surfaces for multi-sports use are given in this Part of BS 7044.

The likelihood of injury is a complex function of the properties of the surface and the nature of the sport to be played. The relevant physical properties are stiffness, energy absorption, friction and roughness. Particularly for a multi-sports surface it is not possible to define a complete safety specification nor to specify absolute limits for all relevant properties which will be applicable to all sports.

Repeated interaction between the ball and players' footwear and the surface will inevitably result in wear due to both abrasion and fatigue processes. In practice, these processes cannot be separated and it is not possible to reproduce precisely in the laboratory the complex service conditions. Again, in service, the surface may be subject to complex patterns of temperature, sunlight and water. It is not possible to reproduce these conditions precisely in the laboratory. Consequently, the methods for measuring durability and environmental resistance cannot be readily used to predict service life, but the requirements specified set minimum standards which, if met, should result in satisfactory durability.

WARNING. It is incumbent upon the owners of, or operators of, a sports facility to satisfy themselves as to the suitability of the surface from a safety aspect for the sports to be played.

It is considered essential that this Part of BS 7044 is read in conjunction with BS 7044-1.

While the tests are intended to assess the most important features of a product to be used as an artificial sports surface, they cannot remove the necessity for regular inspection and maintenance, which is essential for reliable operation.

Product certification. Users of this Part of BS 7044 are advised to consider the desirability of third party certification of product conformity with this British Standard based on testing and continuing surveillance, which may be coupled with assessment of a supplier's quality systems against the appropriate Part of BS 5750.

Enquiries as to the availability of third party certification schemes will be forwarded by BSI to the Association of Certification Bodies. If a third party certification scheme does not already exist, users should consider approaching an appropriate body from the list of Association members.

A British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of British Standards are responsible for their correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

Summary of pages

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This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.