

Technical Information Melcourt Softwood & Hardwood Playchips[®]

Product Description

A processed and selectively screened wood chip loose impact absorbing surface (LIAS) from our 'deluxe' range, suitable for play areas, particularly those where high movement and ground falls are likely, such as trim tracks, or large areas between individual play spaces, play centres, under play frames, space nets and other non-moving structures.

- Nominal particle size range 5 – 40mm
- Available as hard or softwood
- Light brown in colour
- Clean and virtually free from dust and fines
- Free-draining allowing safe play throughout the year
- Produced from sustainably harvested British forests
- Certified by the Forest Stewardship Council[®] (FSC[®]) (softwood only)*
- Compliance to BS EN 1176 Table A.1, confirms that Melcourt Playchips[®] meet a nationally accepted industry standard
- High resistance to fire confirmed by testing in accordance with BS 4790:1987
- Good durability of 2 – 4 years plus
- Sold in 70 litre bags, bulk bags and in loose bulk



User Benefits

- Independently tested in accordance with the requirements of BS EN 1177:2008, at depths of 300mm, 200mm and 100mm giving critical fall heights of >3.5metres, >3.5 metres and 1.4 metres respectively
- Rapid drainage during wet weather allows play all year round
- Easy to install and maintain
- Virtually vandal resistant
- Any overspill onto adjacent grassed areas will not damage mowing equipment
- The loose, particulate feel of Melcourt Playchips[®] deters dogs and cats, thus helping to prevent animal fouling
- Hostile living environment for pests
- Extremely cost-effective
- Easy to relocate
- At the end of its useful life as a play surface, Melcourt Playchips[®] can be effectively re-used as a mulch or soil conditioner

Design, Installation and Aftercare

Melcourt offers extensive advice on design, installation and aftercare using products from our Play Range, together with up-to-date information on many contractual and standards issues regarding play areas. This information can be found on our website at www.melcourt.co.uk.

Wood shards

Melcourt's loose impact surfaces, are made from natural materials. During the manufacturing and screening process a very small proportion of larger pieces of wood, referred to as 'wood shards', may fall through the screens and be included in the finished product.

If these wood shards are considered to be a hazard, they can be physically removed, by hand, once the surface has been installed.

* Softwood product is from FSC MIX Sources at a minimum of 70%, FSC certificate number CU-COC-806457.

* Softwood product sold in loose bulk is FSC certified by special request only

Melcourt Playchips®

The following text is recommended to be used by architects and product specifiers, when inviting quotations for these materials. The use of this text will not contravene the copyright of this publication.

“ Product Specification

- The product shall consist of natural British conifer or hardwood woodchips with an even nominal particle size distribution of 5-40mm, with minimal dust and fines and 85% plus wood content.
- The product shall be pest, disease and weed free and not have been treated with any additives, colorants or dyes.
- The product shall comply with BS EN 1176 and be installed to a layer thickness of 100mm more than that found by laboratory testing to achieve the required critical fall height.
- The product shall be Forest Stewardship Council®(FSC®)* certified (if softwood)
- The product shall have been tested in accordance with the requirements of
- BS EN 1177:2008, at depths of 300mm, 200mm and 100mm.
- The product shall have been tested in accordance with the requirements of BS 4790:1987, for fire resistance and be classified as having 'low' potential to burn.

Application Rates

Lay the 'Melcourt Playchips®' LIAS to a finished depth of mm (insert finished depth required) allowing at least 10% for settlement after 30 days.

Additional Clauses

- Copies of all current British Standard test certificates to be provided on request.
- Typical product samples to be provided on request.
- All product volumes to be calculated using the Bulk Density method, as set out in BS EN 12579:2000 and BS EN 12580:2000.

Available from

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To comply with BS EN 1176, the LIAS used must be installed to a layer thickness of 100mm more than that found by laboratory testing to be necessary to achieve the required critical fall height.

The following table gives a guide to the area in square metres, covered by one cubic metre, when evenly laid at the given depths:

LIAS depth required (mm)	300	200	100
Square metres covered by 1m³ of LIAS	3.3	5.0	10.0

A suitable allowance for settlement should be made, as stated in the Technical Specification table below..

Product settlement percentages are provided for your guidance only. If the product settles more than the minimum figure stated, it is the customer's responsibility to order sufficient additional material, to give the required finished depth.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Main Constituent	Wood
Origin	British
Nominal particle size range mm	5-40mm
Wood content	> 85 %
Dust and Fines	Minimal
Typical Bulk Density Range	260 - 310 kg/m ³
Quality Range	Deluxe
Settlement factor	10+%
Durability	2-4+ years
BS EN 1176 compliance	YES
BS EN 1176 tested	YES
BS 4790:1987 tested	YES
FSC Certified	YES *(softwood)

All values given in the Technical Specification are typical. However, some variation may occur from time to time. Melcourt Industries Ltd reserves the right to alter the specification without notice, for the purpose of product improvement.

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