

# Moveable Play Equipment

## Standards

The Australian Standard AS 4685 *Playground equipment and surfacing* applies to both moveable and fixed play equipment.

Moveable play equipment includes trestles and attachments, portable forts, climbing apparatus and many more play accessories.

## Maximum Height

The maximum free height of fall for moveable play equipment is 1500mm eg. the highest foot support and/or platform on moveable play equipment is no higher than 1500mm.

## Impact Area

A minimal impact area of 1500mm is required surrounding moveable play equipment items that measure 600mm or more above ground level.

An impact area of 1500mm is required between each piece of equipment that is not linked. See Figure 1 below.

A tape measure or length of dowel (pre cut to 1500mm as pictured lower right hand corner) can be used to check the required falling space and impact area.

An impact area of less than 1500mm is required for equipment less than 600mm above ground level. A circulation zone of 1000mm is recommended surrounding low equipment items that are designed for climbing, rocking or jumping.

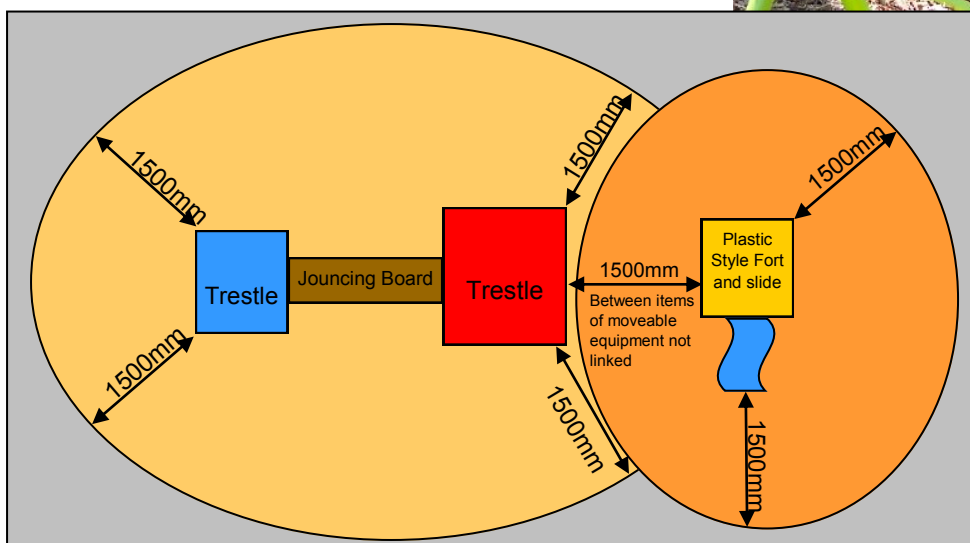


Figure 1 - Minimum dimensions of impact areas for moveable equipment items as per AS 4685:2014. This figure is not to scale.

## Surfacing

For moveable play equipment with a climbing height 600mm or more above ground level the equipment must be set up on certified impact attenuating playground surfacing. Refer to the information sheet *Playground Surfacing* for further information.

Certified playground surfacing must be used in the impact area under and surrounding the equipment. It is recommended to mark out the impact area on the playground surface by painting a line or, at the time of installation, laying a different colour to highlight the extent of the impact area as pictured below.



Set up equipment items less than 600mm above ground level on a soft surface such as well maintained grass.



## Setting Up

Moveable play equipment must be set up on a level surface for stability.

When setting up moveable equipment, ensure that enclosed openings at 600mm or more above ground level are outside the range of 89–230mm to avoid head and neck entrapment.

A ruler or tape measure can be used to check for bound head and neck entrapment hazards in the set up of the moveable play equipment (example pictured right).



Rebounders (mini trampoline) that measure less than 600mm above ground level may be placed on any soft surface (such as well maintained grass). Ensure with a 1000mm impact area surrounding the trampoline is provided. Refer to the information sheet *Trampolines*.

*“Moveable Play Equipment:  
A guide for playground  
owners and educators”*

A valuable resource to identify hazards associated with the setting up of equipment.

Order your copy at:  
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KIDSAFE NEW SOUTH WALES Inc.  
Playground Advisory Unit

P: 02 9845 0893  
E: [schn-kidsafe@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:schn-kidsafe@health.nsw.gov.au)  
[kidsafensw.org](http://kidsafensw.org)

  
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