



# COMPLETE GUIDE AND PORTFOLIO

*A comprehensive guide to playground design*




Includes detailed information and recommendations for all stages of the process, from initial concepts through installation, and ongoing maintenance.



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A photograph of two children playing soccer on a grassy field. A boy in a yellow shirt is holding a soccer ball, and a girl in an orange shirt is running towards him. They are surrounded by trees and a clear blue sky. A white curved line is visible in the upper right corner of the image.

**"Play gives children  
a chance to practice  
what they are learning."**

— Fred Rogers

Hello,

Embarking on a playground project may seem overwhelming at first. There are many decisions to be made, from equipment to surfacing options to shade and beyond. It can be difficult to even know where to start ... especially if you are not familiar with the process.

Playgrounds not only encourage physical fitness, but they provide a gathering place and create a sense of community pride.

This guide will help you through each stage of the process, from the initial research to budgeting, design, installation and maintenance.

Partnering with a trusted, reputable playground company will enable you to bring your vision to life, on time and on budget. Don't hesitate to ask questions or seek additional information at any stage of your project. After all, your playground is important to so many children, families or residents.

Sincerely,

*Randy May*

Randy May  
Owner, May Recreation Equipment & Design, LP



**"Play is the highest form of research."**

— Albert Einstein



# ABOUT MAY RECREATION

**May Recreation Equipment & Design** is a top supplier of playground equipment, shelters, playground safety surfacing, site amenities and related products in Northeast, East, and Southeast Texas, including the Greater Houston Area.

With over 30 years of experience in public and private projects, May Recreation prides itself on bringing projects in on time, on budget and beyond our clients' expectations. If you're in the process of designing a playground, May Recreation can work with you to bring your vision to life.

## OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:



Project design assistance



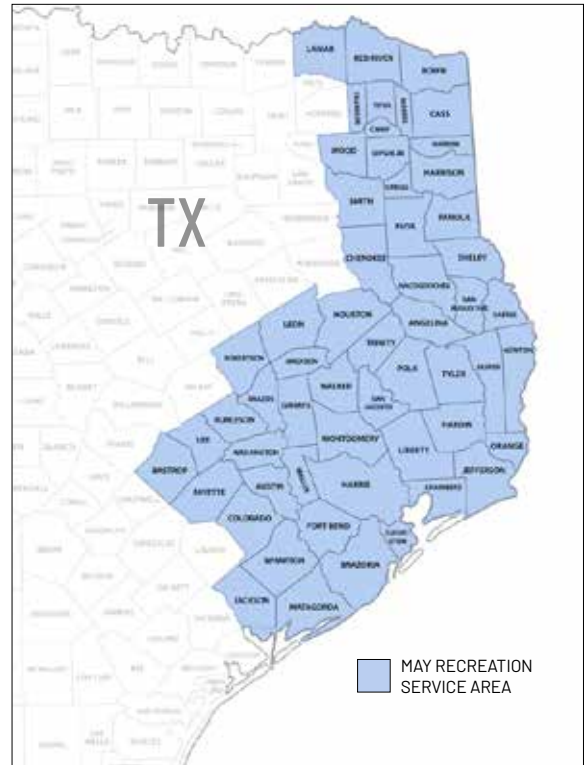
Financing options



CAD design capabilities



Installation of most products



## MEET OUR TEAM

**Enriching Community Life with Engaging Destination Playgrounds** ... Serving the greater Houston area, May Recreation Equipment & Design, L.P., offers commercial-grade park and playground equipment with designs focused on safety, fun and competitive pricing from reliable, high-quality manufacturers. With extensive experience in public and private projects, we ensure your project is completed on time, on budget and beyond expectations. Give us a call at 800-964-6301 (toll-free) or email us at [sales@mayrecreation.com](mailto:sales@mayrecreation.com) and let our experienced team help bring your playground dreams to life!



*Randy May*

Agency Principal / Owner



*Jeff Bigbie*

Area Sales Manager



*Jeff Bratton*

Area Sales Manager



*Matt J. Wanner*

Area Sales Manager







Our component-based equipment offers limitless design possibilities. Once you choose components, our designers configure them to meet all state and federal playground standards. Whether you call it a play system, structure or “big toy,” we can create a solution to fit your budget.



## Swings

A timeless playground essential, our swing sets come in multiple types, sizes and seat options to fit available space and ensure age-appropriate, inclusive play.

## Sun Shades

Stylish and functional, our sun shades protect from harmful UV rays, reduce glare and heat, and create cooler, more comfortable spaces. Ideal for playgrounds, seating areas, and community spaces, they're built to last in outdoor environments.

## Climbers

Freestanding or part of a full playground, our climbers suit all ages and skill levels. We offer overhead, horizontal and vertical designs to match your needs.

## Percussion Play

Outdoor musical instruments that anyone can enjoy – no training required. Great for recreation or therapy, they bring people together through the joy of making music.

## Themed Play

From pirate ships to dinosaurs, our GFRC creations turn play areas into immersive adventures. Built for durability, they inspire creativity for years to come.

## Soft Play

For over 40 years, Soft Play has delivered innovative indoor play solutions that spark imagination while supporting commercial goals like foot traffic and dwell time.

## Hex Quest™

Hexagonal climbers that challenge, engage and inspire kids while offering open sightlines for caregivers. Durable, configurable and perfect for community play.





# OUTDOOR FITNESS EQUIPMENT & SPORTS EQUIPMENT

## **Miracle Recreation**

For more than 90 years, Miracle Recreation® has brought innovation to playspaces, child and adult fitness, and communities throughout the United States. You'll find the right price on the most extensive selection of equipment that meets the industry's highest standards of safety, durability, structural integrity and accessibility around the world.

## **Basketball Goals**

Basketball goals have evolved from the days of a vegetable basket attached to a pole to today's basketball goal systems that offer adjustable height backboards with flexible breakaway rims. We offer a full line of basketball goals that allow the flexibility necessary for our clients to incorporate goals based upon the environments they will serve.

## **Soccer Goals**

One of the fastest growing sports in the United States continues to be soccer, and we offer soccer goal options to serve all age group and skill levels. Our goals can be chosen as permanent or semi-permanent installation or can be completely portable via wheel systems.

## **Volleyball Systems**

Volleyball continues to be a sport enjoyed by all skill levels — from community groups in neighborhood parks to collegiate-level athletes. Our volleyball systems and nets are enjoyed by all enthusiasts alike.



When you think of playground surfacing, chances are you think of engineered wood fiber or “mulch” as it is commonly referred to. However, there are several other options available should you decide to try something different.

**There are many benefits to adding artificial turf** to your high-traffic areas near or around playgrounds. However, artificial turf could be used anywhere on your grounds where you need a low-maintenance ground cover with the look of beautiful, green grass – year-round!

May Recreation specializes in the installation and distribution of artificial turf for residential and commercial use. Whether you’re interested in transforming your lawn, playground, rooftop, dog run or putting green, we are the experts. Contact May Recreation for a quote and our installation schedule today!

## No Fault

No Fault has earned a reputation as the premier provider and industry leader in playground safety surfacing, with products designed to bring sustainability, long-term value and improved performance.

## Safety Surfacing

A proper playground surface is one of the most important factors in reducing injuries and the severity of those injuries. The surface under the playground equipment should be soft enough and thick enough to soften the impact of a child’s fall.

Today, safety experts recommend “softer” playground surfacing options, which serve to absorb some of the impact by serving to cushion the child’s fall. The proper playground surface can dramatically improve playground safety.

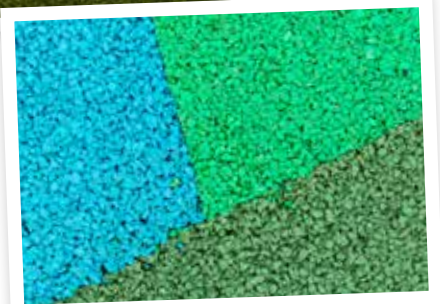
One increasingly commonplace type of playground surface is made of rubber. Rubber not only cushions impact, but it also reduces slips and falls, thereby enhancing playground safety by leaps and bounds.

## Rubber Crumb & Pour-in-Place

There are two basic styles of rubberized playground surfacing.

**Rubber Crumb**, also called rubber mulch or loose fill rubber surfacing, which is comprised of small grains of free-floating rubber particles. Pour-in-Place or unitary rubber playground surfacing is rather similar to rubber track material. It’s poured into forms while warm and it fuses into a flexible rubber surface that cushions impacts and reduces the risk of suffering serious injury. Rubber tiles are also used in some cases to create a solid rubber playground surface.

**Wood fiber playground surface** is another safe and economical option for improving playground safety. It’s important to note that this is different from bark mulch; it’s a higher quality fiber that’s designed to cushion impacts and enhance playground safety.





# SHADE STRUCTURES & FURNISHINGS

## **Shade Protection**

Shade from harmful UV rays is now a priority in play design. We offer large-scale shade systems or smaller options that integrate with play structures — designs to fit most needs and budgets.

## **Pavilions**

A classic in park and school design, metal pavilions provide versatile spaces for picnics, sports and gatherings. Our line includes multiple sizes, materials, and roof styles.

## **Gazebos**

Gazebos remain popular for community spaces, offering areas to gather and socialize. We provide a wide range of sizes, designs and materials to suit any project.

## **Dog-Friendly Furnishings**

Featured in parks nationwide, our pet-friendly amenities enhance dog parks and off-leash areas. Options include play equipment, fountains, hydrants, wash stations, benches and waste stations.



**To request any of the catalogs to the right, visit [MayRecreation.com](http://MayRecreation.com)**

We offer a wide range of additional products beyond those listed here. If you don't see what you're looking for, please contact us for more information.



**Miracle**

**Miracle** (play equipment/shade structures/site furnishings)



**First Team** (goals for all sports)



**No Fault** (pour-in-place rubber surfacing)



**Fibar** (wood fiber playground surfacing)



**Stern-Williams** (drinking fountains)



**SoftPlay** (soft play structures)



**UPC Parks** (concrete play structures)



**USA Shade** (shade and fabric structure solutions)



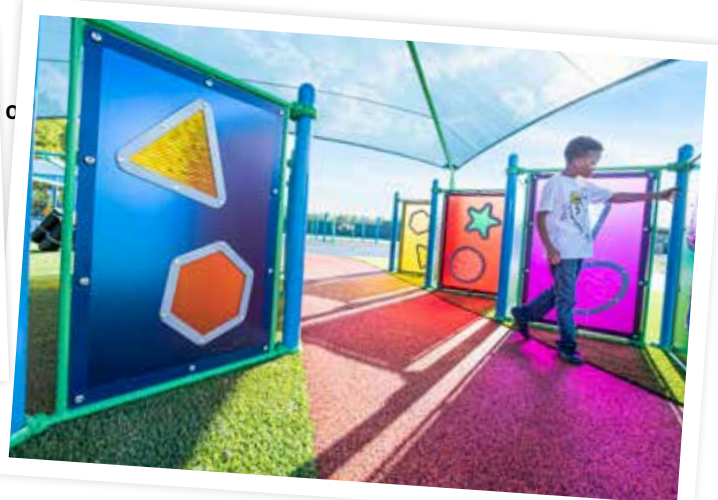
**Wabash Valley** (commercial grade outdoor furniture)



**Classic Recreation Systems** (shade structure designs)



**Percussion Play** (outdoor musical instruments)







**"Life must be lived as play."**

— Plato



When building a playground, it's important to begin by researching and gathering information on different types of playgrounds. You can start to narrow down your likes and dislikes to create your "wish list."

## IDEAS TO GATHER INFORMATION:

**Online** — Look for pictures of playgrounds you love, read reviews or download case studies of similar projects.

**Site Visits** — It takes a bit more time, but visiting playgrounds in person gives you a feel for the material, layout, space, colors, etc.

**Referrals** — Contact others who recently went through the process. Get their thoughts and input, ask what they love or if there is anything they would have done differently.

**Ask for Input** — Gather input from community members, parents or key stakeholders. Solicit feedback and ideas of what they hope to see.

**Browse Equipment Catalogs** — Most vendors offer free catalogs. For example, through May Recreation online you can request complimentary digital catalogs from any or all of the vendors listed on page 12 of this catalog.





# DEFINE PLAYGROUND OBJECTIVES



Before you go any further, you'll want to take time to think about and define your overall objectives. What are your goals for the playground?

## CONSIDER YOUR TARGET USER

- Are you building it for community residents?
- Students?
- Church members?
- What age range?
- Are there special needs or circumstances to consider?

## DEFINE YOUR GOALS

They might include some of the following:

- Promote physical health
- Encourage outdoor play
- Create a community gathering place
- Build community pride
- Encourage inclusive play

By defining exactly what you hope to accomplish, you can narrow down your choices and create a playground that meets your needs within your budget.





# ENSURE ADAAG COMPLIANCE



As of March 15, 2012, new and renovated playground surfaces must pass ASTM Standards for impact protection (F 1292) and wheelchair access (F 1951). It's imperative to have barrier-free access to public play areas in order to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG).

Your playground design expert can help ensure that you are within the guidelines, installing elements such as:

- **Plastic ramping system**
- **Ground-level play activities** — ADAAG requires a specific number of accessible ground-level play components based on the number of elevated play components in your play area.

You want your playground to be accessible and enjoyable for children of all needs, and it's important to plan ahead to ensure it's built that way.







Each project that May Recreation works on is **unique** and customized based on the client's specific needs, space and budget. Here is a sampling of playgrounds we've completed recently. We're happy to provide more examples and pictures of our playgrounds at schools, communities, churches and residential neighborhoods.



*Wildwood at Oakcrest – Tomball, Texas*



*Tavola, Phase 1 – Friendswood, Texas*



*Jordan Ranch – Brookshire, Texas*



*Kingwood Royal Brook – Kingwood, Texas*



*Emmett J. Scott Park – Tyler, Texas*



*Victory Park Balmoral – Humble, Texas*



*WoodTrace – Tomball, Texas*



*Young Ranch – Katy, Texas*



# REAL STORIES, REAL RESULTS

**"I've had the pleasure of doing business with May Recreation for over 10 years, and they've consistently delivered outstanding service. Their pricing is always competitive, and the quality of their products is top-notch. I highly recommend them for anyone looking for reliable and high-quality recreational equipment."**

— Kirk

*"Our HOA needed a new playground and we got a number of bids from different companies but we chose May Recreation and couldn't be happier. Our neighborhood kids love the new playground. Miracle's products have been great and the team helped us add all the must-have items from our list. The grown-ups are really enjoying the tetherball they added as well."*

— Jami



— Brandy

**"After having the opportunity to do business with Randy at May Recreation, I can say without a doubt they are the go-to company for any of your outdoor/recreational needs. They have great communication, punctual installs and top-notch customer service. They make the whole process very smooth and transparent. 10/10 recommendation!"**

— Dylan



— City of Madisonville

**"There are not too many full-service playground vendors around — most only want to sell you a new structure. May Recreation understands the service after the sale. Helpful and knowledgeable with decades of experience designing, selling and installing playgrounds and amenities, May Recreation gets the job done. May Recreation gets two thumbs up for cost, value, quality and customer service."**

— Robert



— Keith

**"It's always been a pleasure working with May Recreation. Very easy and communicative and craftsmanship is on point! 10/10 recommend."**

— Ryan

**"Randy and the guys have a ton of experience when it comes to outdoor recreation. Anytime I have an issue or question about any playground, he is always willing to help. I would highly recommend May Recreation to anyone who is thinking about building an outdoor park."**

— Danny

**"It is a happy talent to know how to play."**

— Ralph Waldo Emerson



**If you'd like to learn more about May Recreation Playgrounds or discuss  
designing one in your community, feel free to contact us today.**

**HOUSTON, TEXAS**

800-964-6301 Toll-Free • [sales@mayrecreation.com](mailto:sales@mayrecreation.com)

[www.mayrecreation.com](http://www.mayrecreation.com)

