

Owner's Manual Play Set

Instructions for Proper Maintenance

IT IS IMPORTANT TO CHECK AND TIGHTEN ALL HARDWARE AT THE BEGINNING AND DURING THE SEASON AS THEY MAY LOOSEN DUE TO WOOD EXPANSION AND CONTRACTION.

At the beginning of each play season

- Tighten all hardware.
- Lubricate all metallic moving parts per manufacturer's instructions.
- Check all protective coverings on bolts, pipes, edges, and corners. Replace if they are loose, cracked, or missing.
- Check all moving parts including swing seats, ropes, cables, and chains for wear, rust, or other deterioration. Replace as needed.
- Check metal parts for rust. If found, sand and repaint using a non lead-based paint meeting the requirements of 16 CFR 1303.
- Check all wood members for deterioration and splinters. Sand down splinters and replace deteriorating wood members.
- Reinstall any plastic parts, such as swing seats or any other items that were removed for the cold season.
- Rake and check depth of loose fill protective surfacing materials to prevent compaction and to maintain appropriate depth. Replace as necessary.

Twice a month during play season

- Tighten all hardware.
- Check all protective coverings on bolts, pipes, edges, & corners. Replace if they are loose, cracked, or missing.
- Rake and check depth of loose fill protective surfacing materials to prevent compaction and to maintain appropriate depth. Replace as necessary.

Once a month during play season.

- Lubricate all metallic moving parts per manufacturer's instructions.
- Check all moving parts including swing seats, ropes, cables, and chains for wear, rust, or other deterioration. Replace as needed.

At the end of each season or when the temperature drops below 32° F

- Remove plastic swing seats and other items as specified by the manufacturer and take indoors or do not use.
- Rake and check depth of loose fill protective surfacing materials to prevent compaction and to maintain appropriate depth. Replace as necessary.

Additional Maintenance

- Check the swing beam and hardware every two weeks due to wood expansion and contraction. It is particularly important that this procedure be followed at the beginning of each season.
- Inspect wood parts monthly. The grain of the wood sometimes will lift in the dry season causing splinters to appear. Light sand may be necessary to maintain a safe playing environment. Treat your playset with stain regularly, to help prevent severe checking/splitting and other weather damage.
- A waterborne transparent stain has been applied to your playset. This is done for color only. Once or twice a year, depending on your climate conditions, you must apply some type of protection (sealant) to the wood of your unit. Prior to the application of sealant, lightly sand any "rough" spots on your playset. Please note this is a requirement of your warranty.
- Assembling and maintaining the playset on a level location is very important. As your children play, your playset will slowly dig its way into the soil, and it is very important that it settles evenly. Make sure the playset is level and true one each year or at the beginning of each play season.

Disposal Instructions

When the Playcenter use is no longer desired, it should be disassembled and disposed of in such a way that no unreasonable hazards will exist at the time the unit is discarded.

Third Party Assembly

Customer may, in their sole discretion, elect to use a third party person or service to assemble this product. Backyard Discovery assumes no responsibility or liability for any charge incurred by the Customer for any assembly services. Please see our warranty for more information about damaged and missing part replacement coverage. Backyard Discovery will not reimburse Customer for the price of parts purchased.

OWNERS SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING THE LEGIBILITY OF THE WARNING LABELS

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Your Backyard Discovery structure is designed and constructed of quality materials. As with all outdoor products it will weather and wear. To maximize the enjoyment, safety and life of your structure it is important that you properly maintain it.

About Our Wood

Backyard Discovery uses 100% Cedar (C. Lanceolata) wood. Although we take great care in selecting the best quality lumber available, wood is still a product of nature and susceptible to weathering which can change the appearance of your set.

What causes weathering? Does it affect the strength of my product?

One of the main reasons for weathering is the effects of water (moisture); the moisture content of the wood at the surface is different than the interior of the wood. As the climate changes, moisture moves in or out of the wood, causing tension which can result in checking and or warping. You can expect the following due to weathering. These changes will not affect the strength of the product:

1. Checking is surface cracks in the wood along the grain. A post (4" x 4") will experience more checking than a board (1" x 4") because the surface and interior moisture content will vary more widely than in thinner wood.

2. Warping results from any distortion (twisting, cupping) from the original plane of the board and often happens from rapid wetting and drying of the wood.

3. Fading happens as a natural change in the wood color as it is exposed to sun-light and will turn grey over time.

How can I reduce the amount of weathering to wood product?

1. Your wood product is coated with a water-based stain. Sunlight will break down the coating, so we recommend applying a water repellent or stain on a yearly basis (see your local stain and paint supplier for a recommended product). You must apply some type of protection (sealant) to the wood of your product. **Please note this is a requirement of your warranty.** Most weathering is just the normal result of nature and will not affect safety. However if you are concerned that a part has experienced a severe weathering problem please call our customer service department for further assistance.

2. Inspect wood parts monthly. The grain of the wood sometimes will lift in the dry season causing splinters to appear. Light sanding may be necessary to maintain a safe environment. Treating your Product with protection (sealant) after sanding will help prevent severe checking/ splitting and other weather damage.