

for sand-filled, sand-rubber filled and non-filled synthetic turf systems such as  
*PORPLASTIC M+F evolution*  
*PORPLASTIC MS classic*  
*TENNIS*

*PORPLASTIC FI smart*  
*PORPLASTIC MS reflex*  
*HOCKEY*

*PORPLASTIC MT curly*  
*PORPLASTIC MS tender*  
*LEISURE grass*

In order to retain the required properties of **PORPLASTICGREEN** synthetic turf surfaces as sports floors in the long term, these surfaces must be regularly maintained and only used for their intended purpose.

In principle, the following rule applies: any damage to the floor should be immediately repaired by the specialist company to prevent any further damage. All repairs and any deep cleaning should only be carried out by qualified persons.

### 1. First use

**PORPLASTICGREEN** artificial lawns can be used immediately after installation. When this synthetic turf is played on, the filling material attains additional stability, enabling the entire synthetic turf system to reach its full performance level as a sports floor.

### 2. Sports use

**PORPLASTICGREEN** synthetic turf systems with their combined rubber/quartz sand filling are particularly suited for the game of soccer. Sand-filled systems, on the other hand, are suitable for both tennis and soccer, while totally synthetic turf systems lend themselves to hockey and most leisure activities in general.

All systems can be played on with commercially available sports shoes, but the ideal footwear for use on synthetic turf pitches is shoes with synthetic sprigs.

Cleated shoes with metal or ceramic studs should not be used.

### 3. Non-sports use

Vehicle traffic on synthetic turfs should only be allowed for maintenance or similar purposes, as significant damage to both the coating and the sub-structure, resulting in impaired function, may be caused by concentrated loads, jerky starts or wheel spins.

#### Prepared by:

PORPLASTIC Sportbau von Cramm GmbH & Co. KG | Graf-Bentzel-Str. 78 | D-72108 Rottenburg a. N.  
Tel. +49 (0) 7472-93797-0 | info@porplastic.de | www.porplastic.de

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The load per wheel should not exceed 2 t while the total weight of the vehicle should not exceed 5 t. Only vehicles having special tyres designed for use on turf may operate on these surfaces. Vehicles must be checked prior to any maintenance operation, as leaking oil or fuel could cause damage to the surface.

If, in exceptional cases, heavy vehicles are operated on synthetic surfaces in order to set up stands, referee chairs etc, load distributing elements, such as boards, catwalks or similar, must be placed over the surface (the concentrated loads must not exceed 1 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>).

Smoking on the pitch should be prohibited. The surfaces must be kept clean.

#### **4. Use in winter**

Once snow has been cleared, these surfaces can also be used in winter. When clearing snow, care must be taken to prevent any damage from sharp edges to the top layer. When using a snow-plough, the ploughshare must be made of rubber, plastic or wood. Chains on snow-clearers can cause considerable damage and should therefore not be used.

Please note: The pile filling must not be removed when clearing snow! Ideally, approx. 2 to 3 cm of snow should remain on the surface to avoid any mechanical damage to the coating. The pitch must not be walked on prior to clearing, as this may result in ice sheets of compressed snow which are very difficult to remove without damaging the surface. This would render the artificial turf pitch unusable.

#### **5. Sand-filling**

Immediately after installation, sand is added to pile-filled synthetic turfs, which helps to stabilise and fix the turf. During the initial breaking-in phase for sand-filled tennis and soccer fields, sand must be added in a timely and thorough manner. Weather conditions or more intense use, e.g. in the baseline and service areas of tennis courts or the goal and penalty areas on soccer fields, may require the additional application of sand. Only quartz sand in accordance with DIN 18035 part 7 should be used for this purpose.

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## 6. Sand filling and filling with rubber granule

For sand/rubber-filled systems, sand filling is also carried out immediately after installation, stabilising and fixing the turf. This is followed by the filling-in of the rubber granule, which ensures that the surface maintains its functionalities as a sports floor.

During the breaking-in phase, an even distribution of the rubber granule filling must be ensured through frequent levelling with a suitable maintenance device. Weather conditions or more intense use, e.g. in the goal and penalty areas of soccer fields, may require the additional application of rubber granule. Only rubber granule in accordance with DIN 18035 part 7 should be used for this purpose.

Additional rubber granules may be applied only to dry fields. For this purpose, the artificial turf pile must be brushed up while adding rubber granule, up to the initial filling level. The rubber granule applied must be properly spread by means of a triangular broom having a trailing levelling mat.

## 7. Maintenance

Compared to natural turf or cinder track sports facilities, **PORPLASTICGREEN** artificial turf pitches are easy to care for.

### **But easy to care for doesn't mean maintenance-free!**

In order to ensure uninterrupted sports activities and matches on a visually appealing pitch, a low level of care and maintenance is required. Regular pitch maintenance is limited to the removal of dirt and weeds, the levelling of the pitch surface (not for unfilled systems) and the periodic checking of the surface for damage and dirt.

The levelling of pile-filled synthetic turfs using a levelling mat or brush should be carried out at least twice a week, or better still, after each sports activity or match – especially during the breaking-in phase. Frequent levelling of the pitch surface ensures an even spread of the filling and therefore good sports properties of the coating as well as low fibre wear. All such maintenance work should be completed after every 50 hours of sporting activity, as a minimum.

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It is particularly those areas that are subject to the greatest loads and stresses, such as the corners, goal areas, kick-off and penalty kick points in soccer or the baselines in tennis, that must regularly be checked, as the filling material is subject to greater impacts, and insufficient pile filling in these high-stress areas leads to the early wear and tear of fibres.

Where the filling material has worked its way out of the turf, it must be replaced, requiring material of approx. 1 kg per square metre per year.

## 8. Cleaning

The regular cleaning can be carried out manually or by using a suitable cleaning device, removing debris, leaves, pine needles and similar soilings as well as weeds.

It cannot be stressed enough that any soiling, especially by organic matter lying on top of the surface, such as leaves and pine needles, be removed as soon as possible. Not long after falling, almost all leaves can be removed by a suction apparatus or a blower and then picked up from the edges, if applicable.

The removal of leaves and pine needles, which have been lying on the field all winter, is usually more difficult, as these leaves have rotted and are now stuck to the synthetic turf or have been worked into the pile fibres and the pile filling through sports activities.

Vegetation growing along the edges of the pitch in particular must be removed mechanically. This kind of growth occurs if levelling and brushing is not carried out on a regular basis, or not at all.

Embedded organic matter, algae and fine particles, such as pollen, dust and abrasion particles from sports shoes or balls, can only be removed by thorough cleaning. The interval between any such cleaning courses depends on the maintenance level for the pitch, and on how much dirt is deposited by the air or the surrounding areas. Thorough cleaning should therefore be carried out as required. This type of cleaning will be completed by **PORPLASTIC Partner** by means of a sweeping and suction process. A special apparatus collects the filling material, separates it from any soilings, such as fibre particles and dirt, and then brushes the cleaned material into the artificial turf piles.

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Traditional fully synthetic lawns should be professionally cleaned every 2 to 3 years; the cleaning interval for systems filled with rubber granule should be 3 to 4 years.

In order to increase the longevity of a rubber/quartz-sand-filled synthetic turf pitch, an additional reconditioning process may also be carried out after several years (depending on the local environmental conditions and the degree of wear). This process involves the total replacement of the pile filling.

## 9. Repairing / servicing

Please contact us or our **PORPLASTIC Partner** immediately if the synthetic turf or its seams are damaged. Minor damage can usually be repaired quickly and without any problems, but can easily become a major problem if left unattended.

## 10. Harmful factors and immediate remedial action

Oil, fuels and various chemical liquids (cleaning agents in particular) cause ugly stains and, in larger quantities, permanent damage to the surface.

→ soak up as soon as possible with sand or sawdust and remove

Chewing gum

→ can usually be peeled off after freezing with coolant spray

Sharp items (glass shards, stones, etc) injure players and damage the surface

→ remove any such items immediately

Burning cigarettes / cigars, fireworks and open flames cause melting spots and permanent damage to the surface.

→ keep off the surface if possible; extinguish immediately. Please contact **PORPLASTIC Partner** for professional repair work to the coating.

**We are happy to provide you with a service offer for thorough cleaning processes, reconditioning and repairs.**

These use and maintenance instructions are part of our warranty declaration for the specific surface.

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