



# Elkhorn Premium Engineered Wood Fiber Playground Material Installation Instructions

## **Standards and Specifications**

ASTM F1292: Establishes the minimum requirements for the impact attenuation of playground surfacing material installed within the use zone of playground equipment.

ASTM 2075: Establishes minimum characteristics for those factors that determine particle size, consistency, purity and ability to drain.

ASTM F1951: Establishes the minimum requirements for ADA wheel chair accessibility.

IPEMA™ Certification: Marks Lumber's Elkhorn Premium Engineered Wood Fiber is certified through IPEMA which provides independent laboratory tests which validates certification of conformance to ASTM F1292 and ASTM F2075. Please check [www.ipema.org](http://www.ipema.org) for proof of conformance.

## **Material**

Elkhorn Premium engineered wood fiber is ground from softwoods and uses only logs and clean wood. Marks Lumber uses no contaminated or dirty material in the grinding process. We only use logs that have been environmentally harvested in the production of this product. We use no twigs or leaves in the manufacture of our product.

## **Installation**

Marks Lumber recommends consulting a local certified engineer, architect or landscape architect familiar with local soils and climatic conditions on all aspects of the installation of the engineered wood fiber including our instructions and recommendations. Installer should follow local and state codes and regulations as well as pertinent ASTM standards and requirements set forth the Consumer Product Safety Commission's *Handbook for Public Playground Safety*.

### **Instructions for Installation**

1. If you are doing a below ground grade installation, excavate to the proper depth for your installation (12 in. for a 12 ft. system). Remember, if you are using a drainage system, excavate an extra 3 inches for installation of your system.
2. If you are installing an above-ground system a retaining wall is recommended to keep your wood fiber in place.
3. For both above and below ground systems a 1% grade is recommended for proper drainage, wood fiber should not be installed on grades exceeding 10 %.
4. Set up your playground equipment according to manufacturers' instructions.
5. Install a drainage system that is applicable to your area. Whether using a manufactured drainage or gravel drainage, dig drainage canal at the lower end of your area to take collected water away from the playground site.
6. If using a manufactured drainage system follow the manufactures' instructions for installation. If gravel drainage is

used, place a 3-inch layer of gravel on a layer of geotextile fabric.

7. Cover drainage system or earth substrate, if no system was used, with a layer of geotextile fabric.
8. Mark your uprights above your drainage system 12 inches depending on the depth you intend to fill with engineered wood fiber.
9. Fill your area with Elkhorn Premium engineered wood fiber to the proper depth. Use a small front-end loader, (bobcat or skid steer) to spread the wood fiber. Don't drive directly on the geotextile fabric or turn sharply on the wood fiber. It will be necessary to manually spread around equipment and in areas the equipment cannot reach.
10. For ADA compliance lay 5'' of EWF, rake level, wet and mechanically compact the 5'' layer twice with a flat surface compactor. Change direction 90 degrees on second compaction. Lay 1 more 5'' layer of EWF and follow above steps. Top off area to above 12'' total of EWF and follow above steps until you have a minimum of 12'' of EWF after compaction.
11. To meet the 12'' depth after compaction you should overfill your area by 3'' of material.
12. Place wear mats in excessive use areas, such as slide exits, under swings, etc. Please contact your local playground equipment supplier for information on wear mats.
13. Hand rake whole area smooth and then saturate with water to speed up compaction.
14. You will need to periodically adjust your high use areas as the fiber will be displaced.
15. To maintain proper depth of your wood fiber you should yearly check your depth. If you find that your fiber has decreased, you should top off your area to bring back to original depth to meet standards.

**\*Please check with your installer or supplier if you have any more questions on the installation of our wood fiber.**

**\*\*Marks Lumber only uses virgin material in the manufacture of our wood fiber.**