

Getting Started with Your Gamecourt Project

The following notes address some of the issues gamecourt customers face in the early planning stages. Please remember that there are many ways to accomplish the same thing and these are merely suggestions.

Space & Budget

The two most common limits in gamecourt planning are space and budget, so it's easiest to identify these first. Start by measuring where you want your court. If you have so much space that it could be any size you desire, move on to your budget. You can always build your court in stages if the entire project is more than you wanted to spend.

Base Options

Concrete: What goes down under your court tile can be a number of choices. Ideally, you'll only concern yourself with the base once, which is why a gamecourt contractor uses concrete. It's permanent. Concrete's also the most expensive base to use and so many customers look for alternatives. If concrete's your choice, ask us to email you our concrete specifications and you can share them with your contractor.

Asphalt: Asphalt is the second choice for a base. Though asphalt doesn't have quite the life expectancy of concrete, it should still last for years and years. In addition, when using modular tile over asphalt, the tile shields the asphalt from most of the sun's UV rays, and the asphalt's life should extend to 20+ years. Laying an asphalt court requires more large equipment than using concrete and access is frequently an issue. Consider this when exploring your options.

Compacted Stone & Stonedust: Compacted stone is our third suggested base. In addition to being the least expensive, it offers other advantages, like drainage. Compacted stone drains and if you have impermeable surface limitations in your neighborhood, a compacted stone and stonedust base is a great way to build a court and still meet your lot requirements. The difference in cost between compacted stone and concrete should be dramatic. Also, because stone and stonedust is less expensive, you're not as committed to the size or location of the court as if you'd spent thousands of dollars having a concrete slab poured.

The major drawback of a compacted stone base is that it may need periodic attention. If a low spot develops because of settling or drainage, you'll have to unsnap the tile and place a shovel full of aggregate in the birdbath. How often you need to do this depends on the weather as well as the quality of the initial job.

It also helps to place a layer of geotextile fabric (weed barrier) over the compacted aggregate and before you lay the tile. This will help direct water run-off and reduce the likelihood of the tile settling into the base.

Driveway Courts

Driveway courts are a great way to start enjoying some of the components before you build the real court! Our modular tile is sturdy enough for vehicular traffic and since everyone has a driveway – you're half way there. If you move or build a more permanent court next year, unsnap the tile and put it in the new location. Our basketball goals look great next to the driveway – unlike inexpensive portable models - and if you want to relocate it later – just call and order a replacement anchor. Unbolt the goal and put it in its new home!

Gamecourt Components

Goals: If you already have a basketball goal, you'll need to know the goal's overhang to determine the correct dimensions for your free throw lane. The free-throw line is 15' from the face of the backboard. If you don't already have a goal, please check out our selection. We have both fixed height and adjustable goals for 30-50% less than the competition.

Lighting: The consensus seems to be the more light the better. Once you've illuminated every inch of the court, it's time to cast light on the surrounding area. This helps with depth perception and orientation as well as making it easier to find the balls that make it off the court.

Ball Containment: Ball containment is netting designed to catch balls, not perform as fencing. Standard heights are 5' and 10' but anything is possible. There are several ways to install fencing so ask your representative about the most common options.

Rebounder: Our rebounder allows you to practice tennis, paddle, lacrosse, baseball, or soccer by yourself and quietly. Because of the net's tension, the rebounder has excellent return action that allows the player to move in closer than they could playing against a wall.

Tile: Why do I need tile when I already have concrete or asphalt? Forgiveness primarily... Concrete and asphalt are great driveway and road materials but not sports surfaces. By placing our ¾" modular tile over your base, you've created a suspended sports surface that absorbs shock and makes the surface much friendlier. If there are cracks or puddles in your base, our tile will cover and hide those cracks and keeps you out of the birdbaths. With twelve standard colors to choose from and inlaid lines and ramp edges, our tile is much more attractive than looking out at an old concrete slab too!

Ramp Edges: Ramp edges are designed to create a transitional edge for the ¾" tile. When building a driveway court or making an area wheelchair or rollerblade accessible they're exactly what you need. They also do well creating a finished look for the edge of your court.

Ordering: Orders typically arrive within 15 business days of the day you placed the order. If you have a specific deadline or scheduling issues to consider be sure and mention it to your sales rep.

Receiving Your Order: When your shipment arrives, either be prepared to unload the truck or request our optional "Liftgate Service". With Liftgate Service, the truck driver will unload your shipment from the tractor trailer onto your driveway.

Be sure to carefully inspect the shipment and note any damage or missing pieces. Once the Bill of Lading is signed and the driver leaves, we have no recourse for missing or damaged items if they haven't been noted on the proper forms.

It is also very important to inspect and make sure that critical components, like anchors and sleeves, are on site prior to scheduling your concrete work. If an item is missing or was overlooked in packaging your order, we will ship it to you promptly however, **WE WILL CHARGE ADDITIONALLY TO SHIP SOMETHING OVERNIGHT.** It is your responsibility to make sure that all necessary parts are on hand prior to commencing work.

Customer Support: By the time your order arrives you will have received a final layout diagram, and installation instructions for any component you ordered. If you have any questions or problems, give us a call or send us an email. 904-270-1128 or vgc@gamecourts.com.

Thanks and happy Gamecourting!