



## Product Specification for GroundSmart™ Premium Nugget Rubber Mulch

### Product Information

Description	GroundSmart™ Premium Nugget Rubber Mulch
Packaging Options	37.5 cu ft Pallet - (25) 1.5 cu ft individual bags 75 cu ft Pallet - (50) 1.5 cu ft individual bags 75 cu ft Super Sack
Colors Available	Black, Brown, Red, Green, Blue, Cypress, and Uncoated
Composition	Recycled rubber, colorant 99.9% wire free containing nylon threads Nuggets range in size from 3/8" to 7/8" per ASTM 3012-22 sieve requirement

### Testing & Certifications

GroundSmart Premium Nugget Rubber Mulch have been tested and certified for:

- ASTM 1292-18e1 Standard Specification for Impact Attenuation of Surfacing Materials within the Use Zone of a Playground
- ASTM 3351-19e1 Fall Height Protection at a Specific Height to Determine Shock Absorption
- ASTM F3012-22 Standard Specification For Loose-Fill Rubber for Use as a Playground Safety Surface under and around Playground Equipment
- ASTM F1951-21 Determination of Accessibility of Surface Systems Under and Around Playground Equipment



GroundSmart Mulch Nuggets are certified for compacted installation depths of 4", 5", and 6" with varying fall heights. To verify product certification, visit [www.impema.org](http://www.impema.org).

**TABLE 1** Sample of Loose-Fill Rubber in the Form of Nuggets Tested in Accordance with Section 7

Sieve Size	Minimum %	Maximum %
3/8 in.	99	100
No. 4	0	5

Nuggets range in size from 3/8" to 7/8" per ASTM 3012-22 sieve requirement.



## ***Installation***

### **Installation Guidelines for Playground**

- The playground area should either be in a location that will not hold water or have a slight grade to allow for proper drainage. In areas where drainage could be an issue: we recommended installing a drain tile system, with a 3" base of pea gravel or rock to allow for proper drainage.
- We do not recommend installing loose-fill mulch directly against hard surfaces, such as asphalt, concrete, or hard-packed earth unless the installation includes adding layers for protection. Before installing over a heavy-duty weed fabric, ensure the area drains well and away from where the mulch will be installed. The next layer should be a heavy-duty weed fabric that is installed before applying the loose-fill rubber mulch on top.
- Heavy-duty weed fabric should be installed under the mulch to separate it from what lies beneath. Depending on the playground size, we suggest using large rolls of weed fabric (12' width rolls) to minimize the number of seams.
- Use landscape stakes to stake down weed fabric seams and corners. Make sure the stakes are completely hammered down.
- A border is recommended to enclose the playground to contain the mulch. Allow for a few inches between the top of the border and the top of the mulch.
- Loosely compact the mulch to 4", 5", or 6" to achieve the desired fall height rating.

### **Installation Guidelines for Landscape**

- Install GroundSmart mulch at a 1.5" depth
- We recommended installing the mulch over a permeable weed fabric. This will increase mulch coverage, decrease the risk of weeds, and keep the mulch in place.
- If installing GroundSmart Mulch over existing mulch or soil, make sure the ground surface is a compacted material, free of debris and loose objects. The mulch will look best when not mixed in with other debris.
- We suggest installing borders around your mulch or plant beds to help contain the mulch. The border can either be raised, poured concrete/brick, or a 1.5" trench dug around the bed.
- To clear leaves and other debris off the top of the mulch, use a blower on a low setting. Since GroundSmart is heavier than grass clippings and leaves, it will stay in place while the debris is blown away.



### **Maintenance**

Maintenance is required to provide maximum fall height protection and accessibility of playground applications.

- To maintain proper performance of the play surface, make sure rubber mulch remains at installed depth and top off as needed and necessary.
- Periodic replenishment may be required if GroundSmart mulch has migrated outside of the play area and cannot be reclaimed and a level compact depth for fall height protection cannot be achieved.