

Performance Floors



Wood athletic floors have evolved significantly from hard non-deflecting surfaces commonly installed in gymnasiums into the 1960's to highly resilient floors most frequently installed today. Recreation facilities in the early 1900's simply incorporated hard non-flexing wood floors as normally installed in factories, homes and commercial buildings with no consideration to provide shock absorbing reaction for athletic impacts.

The full force of running, landing or aggressively contacting floor surfaces such as concrete or thin hard tile is fully absorbed by the body. And when striking the floor in an unprepared manner, the few millisecond impacts do not allow time for desired body reaction to compensate.

Hardwood athletic floors are now nearly exclusively installed over subfloor systems with the inclusion of some type of elastomer. Such typical sports floors absorb a degree of shock otherwise absorbed by the athlete. Numerous athletic floor standards have been developed in the past 50 years to rate Force Reduction values along with other related characteristics such as Vertical Deflection, Basketball Rebound, and Surface Friction.

Standards set by numerous organizations and associations all call for some level of Force Reduction that can only be met with the inclusion of some type of resilient pad.