

EQUESTRIAN

SURFACES LTD

LAYING INSTRUCTIONS FOR SAND AND FIBRE SURFACES

We recommend all surfaces are laid to a minimum depth of 125mm (5") compacted depth.

Labour and plant required:

- Digger driver and banksman
- 360° Tracked machine (rubber or steel tracks) with a toothless bucket
- Dumper for moving surface is optional
- Tractor and agricultural rotovator or rotospike
- 120cm vibrating twin roller
- Track Master and towing vehicle

Laying sand and fibre surfaces:

The first lorry delivering sand is tipped into the entrance of the arena, the lorry should not back onto the stone sub-base.

Using the 360° tracked machine spread the sand roughly to a depth greater than 125mm (5") The following deliveries are tipped into the entrance and then pulled out and spread with the machine over the arena, using a depth checker the banksman can measure the that the depth is kept constant depth greater than 125mm. The dumper may be used to cart and ferry sand around the arena if required.

When all the sand has been spread roughly, please note there will be some areas not covered with any surface. The sand should then be tracked in and rolled with the vibrating roller to create the initial compaction and the banksman measuring the depth so that the surface is accurately trimmed to a 5" compacted depth, the excess surface then being pushed out to the areas without surface and the same process carried out to cut and trim the sand to 125mm.

The tonnage of sand delivered is calculated to provide a 125mm depth (unless specifically stated) for the size of your arena.

On completion of the laying process above the arena is re-rolled with the vibrating roller and then watered if required before the bales are lifted and placed on the arena by gridding out the bales at 1 bale per 100sq.m. The bales are opened and spread using the bucket of the digger to knock the bales out and then hand raked to spread evenly if required. A bale chopper can also be used if the arena is of an extremely large dimension or if spreading on a gallop.

The fibre is then rotovated in using the rotospike/rotovator which has 90° tines, turning the sand and fibre over, burying it to ensure it is blended well and therefore will provide a good root structure to the surface. The tines on the rotovator should be set to 3-4", hence why laying the sand and levelling before incorporating your fibre is so important. Several passes should be made both up and down the arena as well as across before finally re-rolling with the 120 twin drum vibrating roller and then grooming the surface with your Track Master leaving ready to ride.

Regular maintenance of your arena and depth checks should be carried out - please refer to our maintenance leaflet for further information or ask a member of our team for information on our maintenance packages.

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