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**blakedown**  
sport & play.

...from the ground up

# contents



About us.....	3
Services .....	4
Surfaces: Sand Dressed / Water Based .....	6
Surfaces: 3G (Third Generation) .....	8
Surfaces: Polymeric .....	10
Surfaces: Tarmac .....	12

# about us



Blakedown Sport & Play is one of the UK's largest and longest established sports facility construction contractors, having traded for over 50 years. Operating Nationwide, Blakedown specialise in the design & build of outdoor sport and play facilities, such as Artificial & Natural Grass Pitches, Athletic Tracks & Event Areas, MUGA's and tailored courts of all surfaces.

We strive to deliver a quality service from concept through to handover and this is supported by our extensive in-house team. This structure ensures Blakedown offer high resource levels and the capacity to construct each project with minimal sub-contracted works, resulting in a first-class facility.

For your information, Blakedown Sport & Play are SAPCA Approved Principal Contractors, an Accredited Contractor member of BALI and hold certificates of accreditation with CHAS, SafeContractor, Constructionline and ISOQAR.



# Services

## Design & Build

Blakedown Sport & Play offer a complete design & build process. Site investigations and detailed surveys are undertaken to help formulate an initial concept, which is developed further to achieve the clients requirements. Once planning & funding are finalised, Blakedown introduce our skilled site team to bring the design to fruition.

## Construction & Engineering

Having traded for over 50 years, Blakedown provide every client with a highly experienced team, from site operatives to management, and pride ourselves on delivering each project with minimal sub-contracted works.

## Maintenance & Resurfacing

Sport facilities need maintaining to the highest standard to ensure clients achieve best value for money. At Blakedown we can offer in-depth advice, guidance and specialist maintenance contracts to guarantee facilities are maintained correctly. Furthermore, when an installation has reached its life expectancy, Blakedown are on-hand to guide clients through the process and carry out the resurfacing works.

## Planning Applications

Aiding our design & build package is our capacity to manage & finalise a planning application required for any external sport facility. Blakedown have a growing portfolio of this service, with some applications even including further developments, such as sport pavilions, car parks and access roads.





## Surfaces: Sand Dressed\* / Water Based\*\*

**Primary Sport:** Hockey \*/\*\*

**Secondary Sport:** Tennis, Netball, PE \*

Sand Dressed artificial carpets are ideal for a range of facilities, whether it be a multi-use games area for school or community use or a competition level school or private hockey pitch. System technology ensures clients have a quality & hard wearing surface that is certified to FIH Standards and accommodates all sporting requirements such as Hockey, Football, Tennis & Netball.

Water Based artificial carpets are designed for elite level hockey and are the premier choice for professional clubs and tournament facilities worldwide. The technology differs to a sand dressed carpet, to provide the best characteristics of any artificial carpet designed for hockey.

Both systems listed above are designed on a similar construction utilising a drainage system, free-draining aggregate, ideally a two layer macadam base and an insitu shockpad. However, to assist a water based system, the facility will also require an integrated irrigation system, improving the slip resisting properties and delivering the fastest ball motion.





## Surfaces: 3G (Third Generation)

**Primary Sport:** Football, Rugby

**Secondary Sport:** Hockey, PE

Whether your requirement is for School, Community Use or an Elite Level facility a 3G carpet is the best surface when prioritising Football and Rugby. Like other artificial pitches they are designed on a construction utilising a drainage system, free-draining aggregate, a single layer macadam base (two layers are advised for a rugby facility) and shockpad if required, with the main variables then being the pile and type of yarn.

Carpet piles range from 40mm to 65mm depending on which primary and/or secondary sport may be played. For example –

- Football only can be played on a 40mm, 50mm & 60mm pile (with only the 40mm requiring a shockpad)
- Rugby can be played on a 50mm, 60mm & 65mm pile (all with a shockpad) and will facilitate football as the secondary sport
- Hockey can be played at School / PE level only on a 40mm pile with shockpad

Yarn types are generally monofilament and fibrillated; monofilament yarn is manufactured as a single fibre normally preferred for higher specification football & rugby pitches, whilst fibrillated yarn is manufactured as a fibrillating fibre meaning it is often better suited to facilities such as 5-a-side areas which entertain frequent and intense use over a smaller area.

The 3G carpets are then supported by a stabilising infill of sand and a performance infill of rubber crumb (SBR), helping to support the turf pile, keeping it upright whilst minimising ball bounce.





# Surfaces: Polymeric

**Primary Sport:** Athletics, Netball

**Secondary Sport:** Basketball, Tennis, 5-a-side Football, PE

Polymeric surfaces are favoured for Athletic tracks and Netball courts but include several specifications meaning they are also suitable for sports such as Basketball. Generally, it is the porous specification that is most commonly implemented and this comprises of rubber granules held together by a binding agent of polyurethane and sprayed with a high-traction, coloured top-coat. This system is laid onto a subbase construction similar to artificial pitches; drainage system, primary aggregate and ideally a two layer macadam base.





# Surfaces: Tarmac

**Primary Sport:** Tennis, Netball, Basketball

**Secondary Sport:** Football, PE

Tarmac surfaces offer one of the most robust and economical choices as they can be used for almost every recreational sport and are simple to maintain. The specification consists of a two-layered open textured binder and wearing course which delivers a porous and frost-resistant surface and is laid onto a free-draining aggregate. To enhance the performance and aesthetics of a tarmac games area, the wearing course can be sprayed with an acrylic coating, often tailored to meet LTA or England Netball slip resistance standards.











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