

Nature Play Spaces - Natural Materials Fact Sheet

Sandstone

CLIMBING/STEPPING

The most obvious benefit of sandstone blocks is their even, rectangular shape that makes them ideal for stacking, creating stairs and steps and forming mounds that can then be used for scrambling up or sliding down.

Similar to rocks, sandstone blocks are often used for retaining where they can serve a practical function and a play function.

The arrangement of blocks can create easier or harder climbing challenges for children, depending on the blocks' size and cut grade. Lower grades will create hand and foot holds to encourage climbing.

SANDSTONE BLOCK GRADES

Sandstone blocks come in several grades of refinement:

DIAMOND GRADE - Most refined and most expensive. Precision diamond cut top and bottom, wheel sawn on the sides.

A GRADE - Five wheel sawn sides.

B GRADE (Roughest cut) - Two to four wheel sawn sides.

BOULDER - Rough, uncut boulders, great for loose stacking.

Generally, B grade and Boulders are ideal for Nature Play as they still allow for stacking and sitting; but don't look unnatural or out of place; and of course, are far cheaper.

Consult a landscape architect if you're unsure of the appropriate grade to use.

