

Advantage RedCourt® use and maintenance guidance

General use

Advantage RedCourt® is an artificial clay playing surface designed specifically for the playing of tennis. It is not intended to be used for any other sport.

The underlying construction must be porous and to achieve this the base includes voids that provide space for surface water to percolate down through the construction away from the playing surface. Such construction is not as load bearing as impervious hard surfaces, so care needs to be taken to prevent damage due to over-loading. Only mini tractors or two wheel drive quad bikes with wide grass tyres should be taken onto the area for maintenance purposes. Similarly point loads, such as chairs, must be avoided.

Players will need to wear flat soled tennis shoes on the tennis court surface. Not shoes with multi studs, studs, bars or blades. Depending upon the weather conditions players may find some tennis shoes more suited to their style of play than others. Extra care will need to be taken if the surface is more slippery than usual, with play suspended if the surface is frozen.

Some drinks can be detrimental to the surface and so no drinks, other than water, should be allowed on the court surface. Food and chewing gum should also be prohibited on court.

More general guidance on the use and maintenance of all tennis court types, including surround fencing and tennis equipment, is available on request or can be found on SAPCA's website at www.sapca.org.uk

Indoor use

If this surface is situated indoors, regular watering is required, so the sub-base must be suitable.

Summer use

No special requirements. Watering is not usually necessary.

Winter use

Always take care not to play on a slippery surface.

Light surface frost- drag the surface to break up any frost and check to ensure the surface is not too slippery for play to commence. But if it is frozen, wait for it to thaw before using the court.

Snow - the bulk of the snow can be removed to reduce the thaw time, provided care is taken to avoid damaging the stability mat and dragging off the infill material – therefore this is best done by hand.

Avoid walking on the snow and compacting it, as this will be likely to turn the snow to ice and slow the thawing process.

Ice - avoid playing on a frozen surface in the interests of safety.

Do not attempt to play or take maintenance equipment onto the court if it is frozen or in the process of thawing.

Maintenance

Day to day maintenance by the club/owner

Drag with the “combination brush with drag net” starting at the perimeter of each half of the court and moving in ever decreasing circles to the middle of the half you are sweeping, taking care not to bring debris onto the play lined area (Remove the debris first). It is best that each player does their half of the court **after each match** as part of the etiquette of clay court play.

Dragging the court redistributes the unbound infill so that infill pushed towards the edges during play is brought back to the middle to maintain an even distribution. It also keeps the infill mobile, reducing the chance for moss to thrive and provides a neatly groomed surface for the next players.

More rigorous brushing should be carried out using a stiff brush, (pulled behind a mini tractor or similar) best done when the court is dry. Recommended to be done **at least once a week**.

Sweep line markings to remove infill that has been spread by play or grooming of surface. Interval: **as necessary**.

Remove any leaves and branches, litter etc. to prevent accumulation and before it starts to break down or decompose. Leaves are best moved to the edge of the court with a blower (never use a suction / vacuum machine) or collected using an Aussie Cleansweep and then removed manually. A sieve helps separate the leaves from the infill, so the leaves can be placed into bags for removal and the infill returned to the middle of the court. Remove leaves and any other debris from the court surface **as promptly as possible**.

Replenish the infill if necessary - make up any low areas remaining after bringing any surplus material back from the edges and after drag netting. **Check weekly**. See below for supply of extra infill.

Avoid the risk of melting the stability mat by banning all hot objects, cigarettes and glass onto the courts.

If chewing gum should be found that cannot be lifted easily, use a chewing gum removal spray.

Help keep surface clean and free from debris by keeping entrance mats, grids and matwells clean.

Most spillages can be removed with water, as only a few materials adhere to the stability mat – do not use solvents such as acetone or alcohol based substances.

Report any accidental damage immediately so that it can be repaired before it gets any worse.

Depending on the location of the court and the climatic conditions moss / algae killer may be required- consult with installer to ensure a suitable material is used.

Annual maintenance by installer or installer recommended specialist

Specialist maintenance is designed to supplement the day to day maintenance and should be carried out **at least once a year**. Courts with overhanging trees, those which are heavily shaded or in areas of heavy pollution may require more frequent attention.

It comprises of more rigorous brushing of the infill and stability mat and the removal of fine debris from the top layer of the infill.

Maintenance schedule for Advantage RedCourt® playing surface

Daily:

- Players to drag the playing surface with the combination brush / drag net BEFORE leaving the court after each match and then sweep the lines, leaving court neat and tidy ready for the next players.

Weekly**:

- Remove leaves and other debris from the court surface and in particular the perimeter of the court. Use of a sieve and bucket is one simple method to separate leaves and twigs from the infill.
- Check for moss or weed growth and treat if necessary with approved chemicals.
- Whole court area to be brushed with weighted brush for deeper penetration into the infill, preventing over-compaction to maintain drainage at the same time bringing surplus material from the perimeter back into the middle of the court to restore an even distribution.
- Check and top up level of infill as necessary to maintain correct level of infill- nominally 2mm above top of stability mat (depth of a two pence coin)
- Drag net and sweep lines to leave courts ready for use.
- Clean mats / matwells at entrance gates
- Report any damage to the surface, seams or stability mat to the installer without delay

** The surface will be difficult or even impossible to work on when the surface is very wet, so picking a suitable time to carry out the maintenance each week will be important. If the whole week is too wet, then resume maintenance as soon as conditions improve. Common sense needs to prevail, rather than blind adherence to a timetable.

Annually:

At least once a year specialist maintenance needs to be carried out by the installer (or an installer recommended specialist maintenance contractor). This will involve the use of professional maintenance equipment that provides a deeper penetration of the infill, lifting it from the surface, removing finer debris, before replacing the infill into the stability mat.

This operation prevents over compaction and contamination of the infill that leads to reduced drainage and surface performance. This work needs to be done during dry weather conditions.

This annual service will also allow an inspection of the surface and the opportunity to provide any guidance that may be required regarding court usage and routine maintenance procedures.

Our costs for specialist maintenance are generally as follows; but extra costs will apply to courts that have not been regularly maintained or are difficult to access.

	Once per year	Twice per year
Single court *	£ 710.00	£1,120.00
Two courts *	£ 890.00	£1,400.00
Three courts*	£1,070.00	£1,660.00
Four courts **	£1,465.00	£2,265.00
Five courts **	£1,645.00	£2,545.00

Above costs will be subject to addition of VAT. Extra cost to treat moss – prices on application

Maintenance equipment we recommend you purchase at the time of installation:



Combination brush with drag net (2 per court, or pair of courts in a block) £155.00 + VAT each

Cleansweep drag nets (1 per installation- for leaf and debris removal) £365.00 + VAT each

Line brush (one per court) - handle shaped for brush to hang from chainlink £225.00 + VAT each

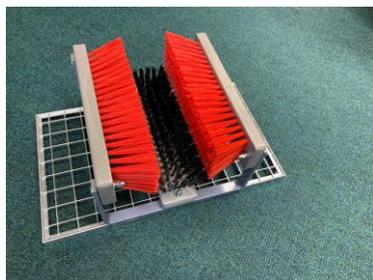
Triangular drag brush- (one) * 1.2m wide single sided on a steel frame £695.00 + VAT

* These drag brushes require a mini tractor or two wheel drive quad bike to pull them over the playing surface. Manual brushing is not really practical on more than one court so we do not recommend it, but manual drag brushes can be supplied if requested.

Other useful items:

Snow shovel, bucket, wheelbarrow- best procured locally if not already to hand

Forty 25kg bags of **red** infill material (one tonne) supplied on a pallet £695.00 + VAT, or for **green** infill £800.00 + VAT per tonne, delivered by Palletforce using a tail lift vehicle to deliver onto flat hard surface that is accessible to a rigid lorry delivery vehicle (UK mainland only). As a guide you are likely to require 0.5T per court per annum.



Shoe brush on metal grid base
£92.50 + VAT



GRP grid at entrance gate
£: Depending on size



300 mm diam. stainless steel sieve
£34.50 + VAT

Prices valid until end of June 2022

Delivery is extra for maintenance equipment unless purchased with surface or an annual maintenance visit by us.