



INTRODUCTION

Thank you for selecting OmniCourt, as your synthetic turf. The goal of this manual is to educate you on proper care and maintenance of your new synthetic turf so that it will remain in top performing shape for the life of your warranty and beyond.

Maintenance and Warranty

Your synthetic turf comes with a 5 year Warranty. **In order to receive this warranty, the OmniCourt Warranty Request Form must be completed and returned to Advanced polymer Technology.** The Warranty itself is directly related to the maintenance performed on your court. The Warranty can be voided if your court is improperly maintained, abused, over-used, or neglected.

THE FOLLOWING ARE KEYS TO PRESERVING YOUR COURT SYSTEM:

- ✓ Keep it clean of all foreign objects
- ✓ Control access to the court
- ✓ Keep adjacent area free of litter, debris, mud, dirt, and oil spillage
- ✓ Provide trash and litter cans adjacent to court
- ✓ Post signs prohibiting smoking and food or drink on the court
- ✓ Repair minor damage immediately

APT, MAKES NO REPRESENTATION, GUARANTEES, OR WARRANTIES, EXPRESSED, OR IMPLIED, REGARDING THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN. THE SPORTS SURFACES: CLEANING AND CARE MANUAL DOES NOT CONTAIN AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES AND IS NOT LIMITED BY AND IS SUBJECT TO THE SYNTHETIC TURF COURT WARRANTY PROVIDED WITH YOUR COURT.

INITIAL REQUIREMENTS

After the initial installation synthetic turf courts require a minimum two (2) week curing and fiber stabilization period. This is the case with all synthetic turf courts. Play may be held during this period but is recommended that all heavy equipment and unnecessary vehicle traffic be kept off the court. Also during this period, sweeping should be kept to a minimum and should never be performed during the heat of the day.

In addition, in-filled systems, unlike conventional systems, require many weeks of use and weathering to reach an optimum playing condition. This period of time not only allows a degree of fiber fibrillation on some courts, but also allows the granular fill to settle properly to its best playing level for ideal comfort, playability, and longevity. This period of time varies, depending on local conditions, use, and sport specifications





1. GROOMING

Maintenance is a crucial part of keeping your court looking and playing great throughout its lifetime. Using the correct maintenance equipment with your newly installed court is the key to keeping the court in the best condition. Improper maintenance methods and/or equipment, abuse, over-usage in excess of 2,000 hours/year, and neglect can void your warranty.

Most important, your court should be groomed regularly with the frequency of grooming dictated by the amount of use the court receives, which will be indicated by OmniCourt per hours of use as follows below,

Light Use – 750 hours or less

- Sweep as needed
- Groom prior to events as needed
- Deep Cleaning 1-2 times during court's standard 5-year warranty period

Intermediate Use – 750-1,500 hours

- Sweep weekly
- Groom once per month
- Deep Cleaning once per year

Maximum Use – 1,500-2,000 hours

- Sweep weekly
- Groom 1-2 times per month
- Deep Cleaning 1-2 times per year

2. CLEANING AND STAIN REMOVAL

GENERAL

Rain is your best cleaner. Rainfall gently cleans the courts fibers of dust, pollen, and airborne pollutants in a way that is difficult to duplicate in any other fashion.

However, the most obvious cleaning needed for your OmniCourt synthetic turf court is the removal of litter. Good housekeeping practices will minimize these problems:

- ✓ Keep trash and litter containers on-site – Make sure there are enough containers so as to eliminate overflow
- ✓ Route court access traffic in such a way as to minimize mud and dirt tracking on to the court
- ✓ Enforce a smoke-free environment, if possible, and discourage the use of tobacco products such as chewing tobacco





Polyethylene fibers are among the most stain resistant fibers known to man because most stains are moisture borne and polyethylene tends not to absorb moisture. Hence most “stains” on OmniCourt are not true “stains” but rather residues of foreign matter, which must be promptly and thoroughly removed.

Most “stains” on polyethylene courts can be removed with water, or soap and water. The first rule is promptness. It is much easier to clean up a fresh spill before it has time to dry and harden. Remove any solid or putty-like deposits promptly using a spatula-like tool. Blot up excess liquids with a stack of towels, cloth, or paper. A water flush on spills is always recommended.

LITTER REMOVAL

Paper, athletic tape, etc., should and can be removed most easily with a sweeper after any play.

A. Oil Spillage, etc.

Care should be taken to prevent lubricating oil, grease, transmission fluids, etc., from dripping or spilling on the courts surface during sweeping. Such spills can discolor the court. Proper maintenance procedures should be observed in this regard. Battery acid and other fluids should court surface.

B. Frequency

The removal of loose rubbish should be performed on an “as needed” basis, generally about twice monthly during heavy use periods.





STAIN REMOVAL

Procedure for Removing “Stains” and Other Blemishes

A. “Water Borne” Residues

Most “stains” commonly associated with courts can be classified as “water borne” stains. These stains are best removed using a warm, mild solution of granular household detergent (non-abrasive).

TYPICAL WATER BORNE “STAINS”

Acid	Alcohol
Alkali	Beer
Blood	Chocolate/Cocoa
Coffee	Cola
Dye	Food Coloring
Fruit Juice/Gatorade	Glue
Ice Cream	Latex Paint
Milk	Mustard
Ketchup	Tea
Urine	Water Colors

1. Brush the residue with a stiff fiber brush (not wire)
2. Scrub the area with soap and water
3. Rinse the area thoroughly with clear water to remove all traces of soap
4. Dry with absorbent towel, if necessary

A three percent (3%) solution of ammonia in water may be used in lieu of household detergent for more stubborn residues or stains.

B. Persistent Oil Based Stains

Follow directions below:

Crayon, furniture stain, lipstick, metal polish,
cooking oil, rubber cleat marks, shoe polish,
suntan oil, ballpoint ink
Oil paints (do not use for court markings)

Sponge with perchloroethylene (dry cleaning
solution). Blot with absorbent towels.

Blot immediately. Sponge with Turpentine or
paint remover (apply sparingly). Response with
cold water to remove detergent. Scrape with
perchloroethylene (dry cleaning solvent). Repeat
steps as necessary.

Nail Polish
Paraffin wax

Sponge with acetone
Scrape access. Sponge with perchloroethylene





Tar and asphalt (dry cleaning solvent).
Scrape access. Sponge with perchloroethylene (dry cleaning solvent).

Caution! Mineral Spirits, methyl-ethyl-ketone (MEK) and other petroleum-based solvents are highly flammable. Do not smoke or permit open flames near containers or near solution when in use. Be sure the area is well ventilated.

C. Animal Waste

Neutralize with mixture of white distilled vinegar in an equal amount of water. Flush thoroughly with water after application.

D. Chewing Gum

Spray with Freon and scrape to remove residue (available in aerosol packs from carpet cleaning suppliers – or use dry ice and scrape).

E. Fungus and Mold Spots

A one-percent (1%) solution of hydrogen peroxide in water can be used. Sponge on. Flush thoroughly with water after application.

Caution! Do not use high-pressure water spray with stream force in excess of 300 psi as this can severely damage the turf.

3. USAGE GUIDELINES

Load Limits

OmniCourt recommends that no long term static load of more than 2 psi (432 lbs./sqft) nor any transient or dynamic load of more than 35 psi be allowed on the court. Note: The loading of a pneumatic-tired vehicle is approximately equal to the air pressure in its tires.

Hence, it is good practice to eliminate any unnecessary long-term parking and loading and to keep the necessary ones as low and brief as possible. Remember that chairs and high heels create high psi levels on the court so even non athletic events can put the turf system at risk. Sheets of 3/4" thick plywood, exterior grade, are ideal to spread loads. Cover the court with plastic prior to placing the load spreaders to keep the court clean because some kinds of plywood contain fillers that can leach out and discolor the court.





Snow and Ice Removal

Snow and Ice Removal are not harmful to synthetic turf systems and generally should be left to melt and drain off the system without assistance. At times, however, it is necessary to remove snow or ice to make the court playable.

The working principle of removing snow is to do so as near to play as possible. This reduces the likelihood of new snow buildup and will reduce the risks of ice from cold winds whipping across a damp, newly cleared surface. Because ice removal is more difficult, the prevention of ice buildup is important.

Sweepers

If the snow is dry and powdery, it can be swept from the court using a rotary brush. Be careful that the machinery used is not set in such a way as to dig into the court fabric. If using a rotary brush:

- ✓ The first pass of the brush should be made down the center of the court.
- ✓ The second pass should be made at the edge of either side of the first pass.
- ✓ The brush then continues down one side and up the other.
- ✓ Finally, clean off that remaining snow with a mechanical broom. Wire brushes should never be used on a synthetic turf system. Only fiber brushes that are set to the proper level on the court.

Snow Removal using a Rubber Bladed Snow Plow

Wet, sticky snow may be more easily removed if pushed off the court using a snowplow with a rubber tipped blade. This blade may be mounted on a light tractor. Extreme care must be used to prevent digging the blade into the surface! The best blade configuration is one that sets the blade above the surface, the result is the blade “kissing” the surface and rolling the snow ahead of the blade. The snow itself will maintain contact with the surface. The alternative to a rubber plow is to take PVC pipe and cover the blade on the metal snow plow.

Wood, metal, and other rigid surface blades should not be allowed.

If using a snow plow:

- ✓ Remove snow in layers
- ✓ Adjust the blade to proper height taking care that it does not make contact with the surface
- ✓ Push the snow into piles
- ✓ Scoop the snow into trucks using front end loaders
- ✓ Use a rotary mechanical broom with fiber bristles to clean off the remaining snow
- ✓ Break up any ice using a small weighted lawn roller and then proceed with procedure above





Note: Use only pneumatic tires on equipment used in the removal of snow and ice. Lugs, chains, and studs are damaging to the surface and should never be used on the court. DO not park equipment on the court overnight or for extended periods of time as this can damage the system. (Note that equipment should not create dynamic loads that exceed 35 psi or static loads that exceed 2 psi.) If the turf begins to stretch more with this process, discontinue the procedure.

Avoid using a tarp on the court during freezing weather. Tarps can freeze to the court by means of condensation and thus can be very difficult to remove for play.

Ice Removal

As mentioned above, in some cases it may be necessary to run a weighted lawn roller over the court to break up ice. The broken ice can then be swept off the court. Generally, if the sun is out and the ice or frost is not excessive, it tends to melt rapidly, especially if the courts are used.

In the event of excess ice, there is no other alternative but to use of chemicals to melt the ice. Remember that any chemical placed on the court will result in residue, which may leave the court sticky and slippery. Flush the residue off the court as soon as weather permits.

If the surface is heavily frosted or iced over, broadcast pile, fertilizer-grade urea at a rate of approximately 100 lbs. per 3,000 square foot. (The amount required will vary according to the thickness of the ice and the ambient temperatures, but this amount is a good rule of thumb.) After spreading, the urea should remain in place for at least ½ hour to melt the ice. It should then be removed from the court with a water removal machine, squeegee, sweeper, or other suitable apparatus. Urea will be less effective at 10F and will not melt ice at 0F. A thin residue of the urea will remain on the court and should be washed off as soon as weather permits.

Caution! Urea may be mildly irritating to eyes. If it gets into a player's eye, immediately flush with large amounts of water.

DO NOT use common salt, rock salt, calcium chloride, ammonium nitrate, or other corrosive toxic chemicals to melt ice on OmniCourt synthetic turf systems. Their presence can be harmful to players and personnel and can damage equipment and damage the court itself.

4. PROTECT THE COURT

1. Ban Open Flames!
No such acts should be allowed on the court for obvious reasons.
2. Clean Up Immediately!
Animal waste should be removed and the area flushed thoroughly. The court should be inspected for damage so that small problems do not become major repair cases.





3. Ban Smoking!
Cigarettes cannot ignite the court but they can damage the turf.

Prohibited Activities to Help Protect Your Court

- ✓ Storage or materials such as drums, lumber, equipment, etc.
- ✓ Unnecessary vehicular traffic
- ✓ Open flames, fireworks, welding, etc.
- ✓ Use of wire brushes, unless specified in the repair instructions found in this manual
- ✓ Heavy loads exceeding 3 psi (static) or 35 psi (dynamic)
- ✓ Use of cleaning equipment, methods or materials not authorized (if in question, CALL FIRST)
- ✓ High pressure water sprays exceeding 300 psi
- ✓ Vehicles with non-pneumatic tires

In the case of all non-designated uses for OmniCourt turf systems, the owner should be aware that damage to the court is not covered by the OmniCourt warranty.

5. MINOR REPAIRS

All seams should be inspected carefully for looseness. All panels of turf should be inspected for damage-rips, tears, burns, etc. Make a sketch of the court and note on the sketch each area that needs attention.

“Minor” vs “Major” Repairs

Experience has taught that most court repairs are minor in nature. However, minor problems can become major problems quickly if not corrected. Small loose spots on glued seams extending a few inches to a foot or two are possible with these systems and are not unusual or cause for great concern. Cuts, rips, and tears in the court that does not exceed six inches or so in length can also be repaired without much effort. These problems should be regarded as minor unless allowed to grow and be repaired by an approved OmniCourt installer.

Other Typical Repairs

Cigarette Burns

Cigarettes should be banned from being on or around the turf. However, in the event that a cigarette burn occurs, generally, a cigarette will fuse the tips of the fibers. This will not occur on polyethylene turf, but a hard spot, compromised of fused fibers, will result. Use a metal brush (such as is used to remove paint) and brush the spot vigorously to separate fibers. If brushing the turf does not break the fibers apart, take a razor knife and cut the fused area into smaller sections and then brush again.

