













## QUALITY MATTERS





## Play spaces that harmonise with the natural environment are more popular than ever, but how do we guarantee quality and minimise maintenance costs?

#### Invest In Quality: Materials and Construction

We have been delivering timber (predominantly Robinia) play spaces in the UK for over a decade with our partner FHS. Each product is crafted by their experienced team of carpenters using sustainably sourced Class 1 timber. Every joint is dovetailed, all fixings are Stainless Steel, and every unit is pre-assembled in factory conditions to ensure perfection.

### Invest in Sustainability: For Our Future

Zero plastics are used by FHS, and every piece is 100% recyclable at the end of life. All timber is sourced sustainably.

## Invest In Quality: Save On Maintenance

Recent research on our oldest sites revealed some interesting statistics regarding maintenance costs. On average an FHS Robinia playground will cost just 3.3% of the Capital Cost to maintain over a 10 year period.













# What makes FHS Robinia timber the best on the market?

Resting: FHS fell the trees in the winter months and leave the timbers to rest for at least three years. This resting period is crucial as it allows FHS to ascertain if any cuts of wood have developed unacceptable splits which render the wood unsuitable for use.

2. Removal of sap & bark: Removal of the bark and sap is crucial to preventing rotting. If the sap is left on, not only will it become very grey and dull but within two years the sap will rot. This can create a gap between the upright timbers and adjoining platforms, fixings and foundations, rendering it structurally unsound.

Removal of knots: All knots in the timbers are removed and in-filled with non-toxic wood filler. This will stop the knot from seeping, which is unsightly and can stain clothing.

Cross bolting the timbers: Robinia timber has a tendancy to split. FHS combat this by drilling through the ends of the posts and inserting two bolts in a cross formation to prevent the timber from splaying. This is then wood filled so the bolt is invisible.

Scale of timbers: FHS select timbers from 140-200mm in diameter to ensure longevity. Many immitations use timbers as small as 80mm in diamter, so always check the size.















## "The equipment fits perfectly into the rural setting of the playground."

#### Cononley Park, Yorkshire

The principle feature of the site is a large bespoke unit to create a real focal point of the site. The unit that we created provides each of the requested elements, with the following components; 2 ½ hexagonal platforms, tower slide with side, monkey bars, fireman's pole and wooden climbing wall with wooden climbing holds.

The diversity of activities on this unit allow for children to challenge themselves on a number of levels whilst the accompanying items bring for a more varied play experience. The central unit adds to the aesthetic of the site in a beautiful landscape setting.

Installed: 2010 Project Value: £27,000 Main Material: Robinia Cost of Spares: £340 Structural Replacements? No Average Annual Cost: £31











"FHS Robinia kit is gorgeous and bomb proof, we have had no issues with the timber equipment from Jupiter Play. The site is on an area that experiences the worst environmental conditions."

Waterwise, Worthing

The location of the play space is overlooked by a residential area and this project had to be carefully planned to be sensitive to both the environment and to avoid obstructing the views from the residents homes.

The entire play area had to be built directly onto the beach, which required products that could withstand the extremes of the seaside. Once the technicalities of the site had been dealt with the next step was to create an imaginative inclusive space with lots of sea references, sculptures, sensory play elements and large play structures to engage a wide user group.

Installed: 2010 Project Value: £130,000 Main Material: Robinia Cost of Spares: £11,836 Structural Replacements? No

Average Annual Cost: £1,183













"It's a wonderful addition to the community and a safe space for families to relax. An interesting play area that sits really well within the landscape."

Heron Drive Park, Staffordshire

Penkridge Parish Council started this project by engaging the landscape team at South Staffordshire Council and wanted to create a landscape-led design enhancing the sloped space by adding lots of new playful features, without detracting from the countryside feel of the area.

This project required a lot of bespoke design work, because of the uneven ground and the steep incline. The community didn't want to flatten the areas, instead the sloped ground is part of the playful feature of the area and working together with FHS Holztechnik the design and installation team were able to overcome these issues.

Installed: 2011 Project Value: £54,000 Main Material: Robinia Cost of Spares: £284 Structural Replacements? No

Average Annual Cost: £31.55











"The Level has a brilliant playground for children, with unusual climbing objects such as seagulls and sheep. It also has a lot of seating for parents to meet and chat while their offspring let off steam."

The Level, Brighton

The council were passionate about creating a play area that complimented the natural aesthetics of the grounds. It was also important that the site accommodated people of all ages and abilities, allowing the site to be enjoyed by all visitors.

Jupiter Play offered Land Use Consultants their expertise in inclusive play design which resulted in the park being awarded a PiPA Destination Lollipop, recognising the design's exceptional inclusiveness, accessibility provision and awareness within the park play area—acting as a perfect day out site for families with special needs.

Installed: 2012 Project Value: £135,000

Main Material: Robinia

Cost of Spares: £7,095

Structural Replacements? No

Average Annual Cost: £788













"We believe that every child has the right to play. If a child is not able to physically move or join in, that doesn't mean that they can't play, it's about finding the way that works for them."

Ty Hafan Hospice, Glamorgan

Ty Hafan is one of the UK's leading paediatric palliative care charities and offers the only children's hospice service in South Wales. With this type of care in mind the team at Ty Hafan had a completely clear vision.

The area had to cater for the most complex needs and fragile children and allow them to play as freely as possible. Ty Hafan is situated very close to Sully Bay and the requirement was to create a really special structure that had relevance to the area and would be unique to the hospice.

Installed: 2012

Project Value: £250,000

Cost of Spares: £54

Structural Replacements? No

Main Material: Robinia

Average Annual Cost: £8











Routine maintenance of play areas will significantly increase their lifespan. Our expectation is for 15 years however we do have examples of Robinia timber lasting more than 30 years.

#### Product Lifespan



Annual inspections in place
Maintenance checks as per EN1176
Vandalism issues addressed quickly
Regular checks of moving parts

- . Frequents formal inspection in place
- . Regular maintenance
- . Damage resolved quickly
- . All issued reported to manufacturer





## What makes FHS Pine different?

We use Longleaf Heart Pine, from the Spruce variety which has a hard central core known as heartwood. This has a lower level of sap wood than other pine timbers, giving a longer lifespan for your play area. Colourings can vary from red, gold or amber in tone. As this timber is softer than Robinia we protect it by using steel caps and galvanised feet.

- Cylindrically milled: Round posts consisting exclusively of heartwood.
- 2. Post protection: Posts tops are protected against water egress with galvanised and powder coated caps.
  - Heavy duty platforms: Platform bases are 4cm thick and all fixings are recessed into the timbers.
  - Steel feet: All pine posts are supplied on steel feet for added protection and longevity.



3.











"Jupiter Play's work on the project has been very creative and innovative. They understood what we wanted with the aesthetics of the unit. The product reflects this and has exceeded our expctations."

Hylands Park, Chelmsford

The client was keen to create a unit that would allow children to be elevated 2.5 meters off the ground. A tall order when meeting the regulations of a 1:12 slope for accessibility. The dominant castle façade stands at 2.5m high; behind it there are a plethora of play activities hidden behind the walls.

A completely inclusive design was created that offered challenge to all children. Nets, slides, ramps and sensory play are all featured around the castle wall. Prioritising inclusive play ensures that we always keep a balanced view of the wide range of needs children have and how we can offer the maximum play value for everyone.

Installed: 2013 Project Value: £190,000 Cost of Spares: £740

Structural Replacements? No

Main Material: Pine

Average Annual Cost: £105











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