

# WHAT IS THE BRITISH STANDARD?



**BURY HILL**  
LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES



The British Standard Institution (BSI) is the national standards body of the United Kingdom. The BSI produces technical standards on a wide range of products and services and also supplies certification and standards-related services to the business sector.

There is a growing number of landscape materials which have now have a British Standard, most notably topsoil in its various forms, subsoil and play surfaces.

## **BS 3882:2015**

The British Standard for topsoil is BS 3882:2015, this sets out the requirements for topsoil classification and composition, specifying characteristics such as texture, acidity and contaminants. The British Standard also includes information on sampling and analysis and gives guidance on handling and site preparation so that the soil is not degraded during excavation, delivery or placement procedure's. In essence, the British Standard seeks to ensure that soils are fully fit for the intended purpose.

BS 3882:2015 covers both natural and manufactured topsoil's, which includes multi-purpose topsoil's as well specialist soils, which include acidic soils (ericaceous), calcareous soils (chalky) and low fertility soils that are moved or traded.

We rigorously and ceaselessly test our soils and landscape materials, where required, to the relevant British Standard as

an absolute minimum. Whilst the British Standard for soils BS 3882:2015 forms the basis of all our testing, we choose to test our soils for many more parameters than the British Standard specifies to ensure that our products meet the very highest standards whilst exceeding customer expectations.

## **BS EN 1176 & 1177:2018**

The British and European Standard for playground equipment, surfacing and impact attenuating playground surfacing is covered by BS EN 1176 and BS EN 1177.

BS EN 1176 provides guidelines for playground equipment, surfaces and gates and fences. It is intended to be used by playground operators to develop a maintenance and inspection regime. The standard focuses on keeping playgrounds safe. In turn, BS EN 1177 regulates the testing of impact absorbing surfaces throughout the UK. Impact Attenuating Playground Surfacing is tested for the Determination of Critical Fall Height underneath play equipment like swings, slides and climbing frames. This includes the suitability of materials such as barks and woodchip for impact absorption as well as the critical fall heights and depth the materials should be laid.

Where a product has a British Standard, this is shown under each products accreditation where, you will also find a link to the products certification and/or specification sheet if applicable.