LEISURE RIDE GROUP™
Advanced Equine Footing

BEST PRACTICE

How to Install a Pre-Mixed Surface

Example 40 x 20 ARENA –800M²

1. Spread the surface using a tracked excavator over the entire arena area. The surface should be laid to an average of 125 mm compacted depth.

2. Once all the surface is laid and levelled as best as possible with the excavator, you should then move onto a combination of harrowing the arena with a spring tine harrow (as detailed in the equipment list below) and rolling the arena with a 1.2m wide double drum vibrating roller.

3. For both harrowing and rolling, work in circular movements and lines as detailed in diagrams 2 and 3, to achieve a level finish and so that your surface is firm.

4. If your surface does not contain a wax coating, then the surface should be irrigated. All final finishes should be carried out with a Leisure Ride Maintenance harrow (as detailed in the equipment list) to achieve the desired ride conditions.

5. **PLEASE NOTE**: Do not harrow your arena when it is very dry as this will just pull out the fibres, irrigate first then harrow

FINISHED ARENA

How to Install Fibres into your Arena

Example 40 x 20 ARENA –800M²

1. We highly advise you, that when installing fibres into your arena you irrigate both the current surface and the bales of fibre, especially if we have had a spell of hot weather, this will enable installation to run more effectively, as it will aid the adhering process between the sand and fibres.

2. Firstly spread the hair fibre approx. 4m wide down the Centre line of the Arena - See Diagram 1.

3. Once you have spread all the bales of hair fibre as detailed above, you will need to use a spring tine harrow (as shown in our equipment list) to spread the fibres across the whole surface of the arena, do this in circular movements approx. 20m wide across the whole arena (as detailed in Diagram 2) and also in up and down movements (as detailed in diagram 3.) until the whole surface is covered evenly with the hair fibres.

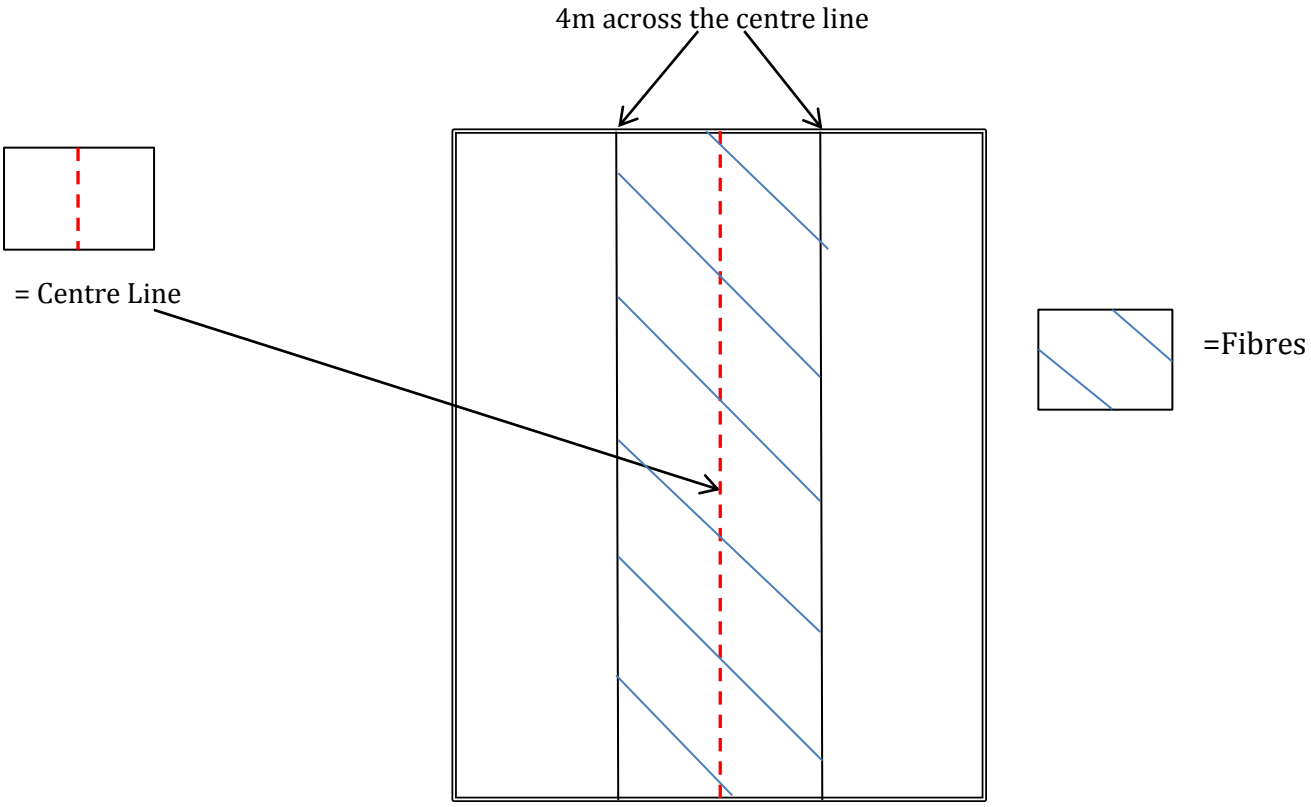
4. Once you have completed the above process, repeat steps 2 and 3 using the poly fibre, this process should take approximately 2-3 hours to complete.

5. Once all the fibres have been spread evenly across the arena surface, you will then need to use either a Power Harrow, Stone burier or Rotavator to blend the fibres into the top **2-3 inches** of the surface. Again using circular movements and up and down the length of the surface (Diagrams 2 and 3.) This should take approx. 1-2hours.

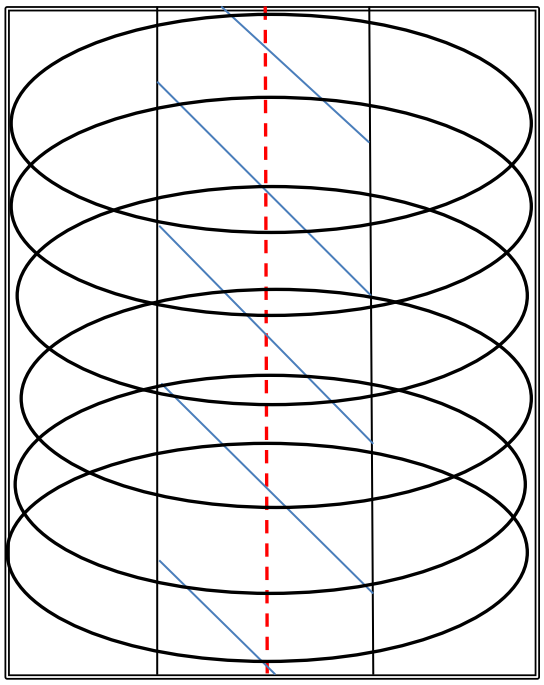
6. You will then need to grade and compact the surface. Do this by using a 1.2m wide double drum vibrating roller, up and down the length of the arena (as shown in diag 3.) at the same time use a spring tine harrow (the same as in step 3) in circular movements across the arena to level the surface, during this time you can focus on any high spots you can see by harrowing the same spot until it becomes level.

7. After this is completed please follow our guidance on general arena maintenance to care for and look after your arena surface.

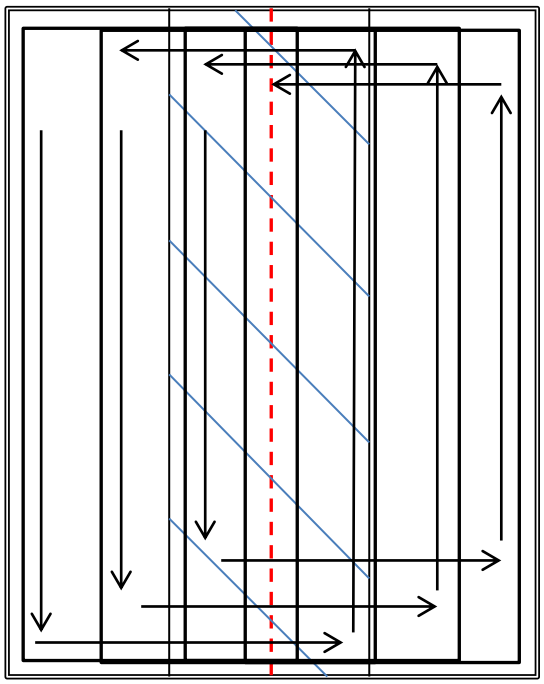
diag 1. – Spreading fibres by hand



diag 2.- Harrowing in circular movement across arena



diag 3. – Harrowing fibres in up and down the arena



General Arena Maintenance

Please find below guidelines of what we call best practice for arena maintenance, remember that the life expectancy of your surface is dependent on the quality of the maintenance carried out.

- Your surface should be harrowed (See equipment list for recommended harrows) regularly within the first 2 weeks of installation to help the surface settle in, after this continue to harrow your arena a minimum of once a week.

- When harrowing your arena don't harrow it too deep, you only want to be kissing the surface with the tines, no more than 10-30mm.

- If you intend to lunge on your arena always travel up and down the arena, do not just stay in one place.

- The corners of the arena are always the last to settle, so don't ride too deep into the corners for the first couple of weeks.

- Use a hand rake on corners and edges to pull in the surface from the kickboards, pull in about 45cm from the edge prior to harrowing your arena, do this every 6 - 8 weeks.

- In hot dry periods if your surface does not have a wax coating, it should be irrigated. This will prevent the sand and fibre from separating. If your surface is very dry, then do not harrow your arena as you will pull the fibre out of the sand, irrigate first, then harrow.

- During the winter to reduce the risk of freezing, the surface should be keep looser, also make sure you harrow it after any rainfall to aid with drying. If frost is forecast, harrow the arena the night before, to give the surface the best chance of not freezing, remember the wetter the surface the more chance it has of freezing.

Recommended Installation and Maintenance Equipment

Installation Equipment

- **Spring Tine Harrow**

Details: The Opico spring harrow is a grass land and arena Harrow in one, it has 10 different depth Settings and is heavy duty in design.
A spring tine harrow is recommended as other harrows will just drag the fibres off instead of spreading them across the arena.

Prices:

- 1.8 metre - £2760.00+VAT
- 2 metre (+£400) or 3 metre (+£900)

- **Double Drum Vibrating Roller**

- **Stone Burier – this is our preferred option to use**

- **Power Harrow**

- **Rotavator**

MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT

- **Rake and Roll Heavy Duty Arena Harrow**

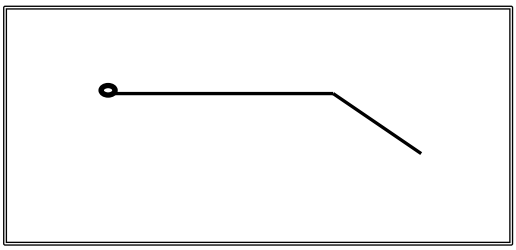
Specifically designed for fibre surfaces, it tends your surface in one pass without digging it up. It also has a crumble bar roller that can be used with the harrow or independently.

These are designed and manufactured by Leisure Ride and can be made to different sizes.

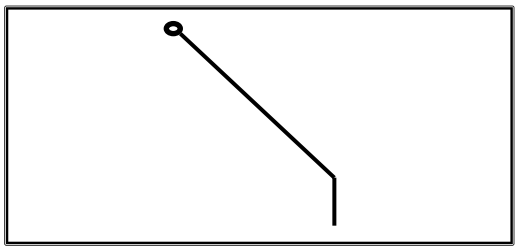
Prices:
£1850.00+VAT

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The degree to which the tines are set on the harrow is extremely important; if they are set incorrectly then they will just dig down into the surface and pull out the fibres.
With the tines set in the correct position, it will create a tumbling action and gently turn the fibre down into the sand.



Correct Tine Settings



Incorrect tine setting