

15-1021



Expression Swing™

How to Install

Add Expression Swing to a
Playground

ORDER TODAY!

Expression Swing™

See What You've Been Missing

Expression Swing is a GameTime exclusive and the industry's first playground swing that promotes intergenerational play as adults and children swing together.



The patented face-to-face design features a bucket seat for children under five and a comfortable adult swing seat that allows a parent and child (or a grandparent and grandchild) to interact with each other and to experience one another's facial expressions while at play.





The Science Behind the Expression Swing

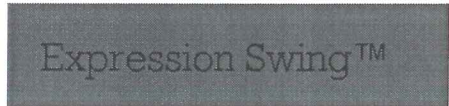
Expression Swing is based on play science and the principle of attunement - the bonding that occurs between adult and child when they engage in play while making eye contact. Expression Swing is designed so that an adult and child can swing face-to-face and eye-to-eye.

Watch the video below to hear Dr. Stuart Brown, M.D. discuss the science behind the Expression Swing and how it is a catalyst for creating intergenerational play in communities.



Add Expression Swing to a Playground

Expression Swing is a great way to bring social, mixed-age play to your park or playground. The patent-pending, face-to-face design allows an adult and child to enjoy swinging play together. You can add Expression Swing to an existing play area designed for ages 2-5, or you can create opportunities for parents and young children to interact with one another while older children play on a larger playground designed for children ages 5-12. However you include Expression Swing into your playground plans, you are sure to create a play experience that will create memories that last a lifetime.



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Click here to
BUY NOW!

Add Expression Swing to Your Xscape Play System

Our Xscape SoloSwing™ frame is the perfect complement to an Xscape play system. Choose from any of our standard metal colors to complement your playground design.



Create an Artistic Expression

IONiX is modern, artistic play system that encourages children to climb, explore and discover new ways to play. The bright panels of the Helix Tower cast colorful hues on the play area below. Adding Expression Swing adjacent to an IONiX play sculpture creates opportunities for young children to enjoy the sensory-rich experience of ShadowPlay™.



A Natural Fit

Combine Expression Swing™ with a PowerScape or PrimeTime Timbers play system to create a nature-themed play area that encourages adults and children to reconnect with the natural environment. Parents and young children can enjoy some face time and mom or dad can still see older children playing on the play structure.



Expression Swing™ Science for Social Change

When a parent and a child make eye contact during play, something special happens. The portions of the brain that are responsible for balance and coordination, thought and language are stimulated. Scientists have observed an increase in brain activity in both parent and child at the moment of eye contact by using an encephalograph. This moment of “**play attunement**” is critical in the development of the parent/child bond and is essential in the early development of a child’s life.

Three-dimensional movement, like that experienced in swinging, stimulates the parts of the brain that enhance our emotions and cognitive development. By combining three-dimensional movement with eye contact, we can create a play experience that provides cognitive, emotional and physical **benefits for both adult and child.**

All over the world, we talk with people who are looking for opportunities to create mixed-age (intergenerational) social play. A U.K. study¹ found that 1 in 5 adults have forgotten how to play with their children, and 55% of children desire more play interaction with their parents and grandparents. A report² on baby boomers in the United States found one of the top priorities of adults reaching retirement age is living in neighborhoods that enable them to play and interact with their children and grandchildren on a regular basis. The need for adult/child play interaction drove us to create more than just a swing. We leveraged the science of play attunement to create a **catalyst for social change.**

Expression Swing™ is more than an adult/toddler combination swing. It is an opportunity for adults and children to interact with one another in meaningful, social play. Rather than standing behind a child and pushing him or her without being able to see one another, the patent pending, face-to-face design pairs a bucket seat for children with a comfortable adult swing seat that allows a parent and child (or grandparent and grandchild) to interact with each other and experience one another’s facial expressions during play.

Dr. Stuart Brown, M.D. is a world-renowned expert on the benefits of play. He is the founder of the National Institute for Play and the author of *Play: How it Shapes the Brain, Opens the Imagination and Invigorates the Soul*. He describes Expression Swing as “a wonderful design that brings many foundational elements of play, based on good play science, into action. This swing allows mutual, joy-filled eye contact that activates the hard-wired play ‘state’ to spontaneously and vigorously emerge. It allows intergenerational mutual play to occur throughout the life cycle and **stimulates cerebra-cerebellar circuits** that we know are hugely important for developmental competency.”

Expression Swing brings adults and children together in play like nothing has before. Just as parents and grandparents relish the memory of a child’s first step or first day of school, Expression Swing allows them to participate, first-hand, in a child’s first swinging play experience and to **see what you’ve been missing.**

[1] From “Parents are Forgetting How to Play with Their Children, Study Shows,” by A. Hill. August 26, 2010, The Guardian. Retrieved from <http://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2010/aug/26/parents-children-playtime>

[2] From “New Type of Intergenerational Community Being Planned in Lawrence,” by M. Shields, 2013. Retrieved March 2015, from <http://www.khi.org/news/article/new-type-intergenerational-community-being-planned/>



Expression Swing™

Designed with Standards in Mind

As a leader in the design of commercial playground equipment, GameTime continually studies and observes play behavior on public playgrounds. Every day, on playgrounds around the world, we observe a common swinging behavior involving adults and children under the age of four, that is inappropriate:

A parent or adult caregiver sits in a strap or board swing seat and places a child in his or her lap. This can create an unsafe condition as neither the adult or the child is seated properly in the swing seat. This increases the risk of fall and/or potential injury. However, many parents prefer this form of "adult assistance" because they are able to participate in play, as well as activate and control the swinging activity.

As part of our commitment to research and development, we created a solution to this problem in the form of a new adult/toddler combination swing. Expression Swing™ addresses the need for a compliant preschool swing that allows an adult to control the swinging activity while participating in the play experience. It is the **industry's most innovative response to the CPSC recommendation regarding adult assistance* for children swinging in full bucket seat swings.**

Applicable Guidelines and Standards

CPSC Playground Safety Handbook (5.3.8.3.2) states that full bucket seat swings

- "...are intended for children under 4 years of age to use with adult assistance."
- "...should not allow the child to enter and exit alone."

ASTM F1487-11 defines the specific use and testing of full bucket seat swings

- 8.6.7 Suspended element impact attenuation test
- 9.4.1.1 Use zones differentiated for seat types
- 8.6.4.5 One multiple occupancy suspended element per swing bay
- 8.6.5.3 Combination Swings - Use Zones related to dynamic motion of suspended elements

CSA Z614-14 (14.4.1 and 14.4.3) addresses the use zones of Single Axis Swings and Combination Swings, respectively.

Expression Swing is such an innovative response to a common playground problem, there is currently no standard specific to its design. However, it passes the tests associated with the closest standards available - specifically, those related to a combination swing and a full bucket seat swing. It has been rigorously tested by **TUV North America** and surpasses the requirements of the applicable suspended element impact attenuation tests outlined by **EN 1176, ASTM F1487-11 and CSA Z614-14.**

We recommend customers follow ASTM recommendation F1487-11 8.6.4.5 and install a single Expression Swing per swing bay.

*CPSC Handbook for Public Playground Safety 5.3.8.3.2