



HOW TO – Use your Inflatable outdoors

At the Football Fun Factory our priorities are safety, fun and development – in that order. Whilst our inflatables are used indoors most of the time, there may be occasions where you decide to use them outdoors. May and Summer holiday Football Fun Camps may include outdoor inflatable activities, however, if a venue has an indoor space we recommend that these activities take place indoors as that is the safest possible environment. Throughout the spring and summer grassroots clubs often hold end of season events and tournaments where there are opportunities to run outdoor inflatable experiences and these events can be very lucrative. We have therefore provided the safety guidance below to ensure that any outdoor experiences are completely safe.

Your inflatables can be used on grass, but should not be used on concrete or any other outdoor surfaces as they cannot be pegged down securely. Please see guidance on securing your inflatables to the ground below:

Inflatable Pitch

Your Inflatable Football Pitch will need to be securely pegged into the ground using industrial steel ground stakes. Please see a link to purchase these below. Your inflatable must be pegged using each metal hook on the underside of the Inflatable Football Pitch. It is vitally important that all areas of the pitch are made secure as the wind otherwise get under the pitch and lift it off the ground. You will require 8 stakes in total to secure your Inflatable Football Pitch.

Inflatable Goal

As the Inflatable Goal is an activity where the children are on top of the inflatable itself, securely pegging it to the ground is imperative. Like the Inflatable Football Pitch it has many metal hooks that need securing to the ground. There will be a minimum of four of these, one on each corner.

Football Darts Inflatable

This piece of equipment is particularly light and therefore susceptible to the wind. Firstly you will need to consider the wind direction and place the inflatable near to a building if possible to shelter it from the wind. There are a minimum of four metal hooks on each corner of the base that will need to be secured to the ground.

Access to Power

You will require access to power in order to operate your Inflatable Goal and Inflatable Football Pitch, as well as set up your Football Darts Inflatable. You may require one or more extension leads to set up the inflatables and should ensure that there are no trailing cables that may present a trip hazard for children, parents, coaches or members of the public. Any laying cables should be covered.

Steel Ground Stakes

It is imperative that proper steel ground stakes are used to secure your inflatables. Tent pegs or less industrial alternative will not suffice. You will require a minimum of 16 stakes to secure all 3 inflatables. You can purchase these via the link below.

[8 x Woodside Galvanised Heavy Duty Steel Ground Stakes / Anchorage Stakes / Tent Pegs – Suitable For Marquees, Gazebos, Trampolines, Bouncy Castles, Tents, Polytunnel Greenhouses: Amazon.co.uk: Computers & Accessories](#)

You will require a rubber mallet to hammer these stakes into the ground like the one shown via this link [OX Black Rubber Mallet - Trade Series Rubber Mallet Hammer with Wooden Handle - Multicolour - 24 oz: Amazon.co.uk: DIY & Tools](#)

The stakes should be hammered completely into the ground. Bear in mind that it will require some force to remove these when you are packing away.

The stakes themselves are a safety consideration as you will need to position them so that children are not likely to trip or land on them, especially when diving on the Inflatable Goal. You may need to cover the stakes with clothing or a similar soft alternative.

Weather Considerations

Your inflatables should not be used outdoors when there is wet weather. When planning events you will need to ensure that the organisers are clear that the delivery of the experiences depends on dry weather conditions. Strong winds may also be another reason to cancel or offer an experience with no inflatables.

The weather can also play a part in your inflatables becoming dirty as mud and wet grass can affect the aesthetics of your inflatables. We recommend that you do not use your Football Darts Inflatable in wet conditions, even after it has stopped raining as the grass can stick to the Velcro face and it is very difficult to remove. This can also damage your Velcro footballs.

Set Up and Pack Away Time

The set up and pack away time required for each day of your Camp or for events will be much longer than when setting up indoors. You should allocate at least 60 minutes to set up all three inflatables.