How to Guide

COVID Safe Summer Guide
The guide for NSW’s public space managers this summer

Marking out places for people
Grass and pavement markings are a great way to highlight:
• Places where people can sit, walk, relax or play at a safe distance
• Queuing arrangements, ensuring people are spacing by 1.5 metres
• Messaging – reminding people of the Public Health Orders and providing key site information (e.g. alternative locations to visit)

Things to consider
Based on experience with First Fleet Park, Place Management NSW recommends considering the following:
1. Location and context – what’s in the space and who is the audience?
2. Current Public Health Orders
3. Specifications
   • Measurements (size of the grass or pavement marking, spacing)
   • Look and feel (colours, shapes, key messages)
   • Materials (fencing or tape, decals, chalk, spray paint)
4. Installation requirements (staff, printing, equipment, approvals)
5. Cleaning and maintenance
State Government are installing circle ground markings in popular parkland destinations, such as The Rocks, Darling Harbour, Centennial Parklands and Parramatta Park.
The 4 square metre and 1.5 metre rules

It’s important to be clear on the distances people need to keep in public spaces. The 4 square metre rule helps you work out how many people the space can accommodate – while the 1.5 metre rule tells you how far apart people need to be from others within the space.

To achieve the 4 square metre ‘rule’ for a public space:

• Calculate the total area (e.g. you may want to only delineate areas in a very popular section of a park)
  • length in metres × width in metres
  = area in square metres
• Divide the total area by 4

For example, if you had an area that is 160 square metres in size, you could allow up to 40 people when using the 4 square metre ‘rule’.

However, to provide visual guidance for visitors with ground markings, we must combine this with the 1.5 metre rule.

Marking a 4 square metre shape, like a circle or square, on the grass would allow each person 4 square metres of space.

To achieve the 1.5 metre ‘rule’ between people:

The grass markings should be separated by 1.5 metres to help people meet this requirement. You can make the shapes larger or further apart.

You can deliver ground circles by using a similar approach to the below example and as shown in these images:

Note: Size and spacing are based on Public Health Orders at September 2020