

Plywood as Ground Protection

Plywood is a common ground protection option, but its load ratings are often unknown and degrade over time. Though low-cost upfront, its shorter lifespan makes it more expensive long term than polyethylene mats.



The Cons of Using Plywood

- Very limited life span resulting in a higher cost over time
- Absorbs water / liquids which increases weight and accelerates rotting and de-lamination of ply mats
- Can cause hand injuries through splinters or debris
- Risk of cross contamination from oils, chemicals, and fluids
- No traction creates an unsafe often slippery surface for equipment and personnel
- Inconsistent strength properties from mat to mat

Due to the porous structure of plywood, it will absorb water, leading to the mats becoming heavy, weak, rot, and become infested with rodents, insects, and bacteria, further increasing the potential to fail.

The load bearing capacity of plywood sheets can vary due to the differences in density, quality, ground, weather, and overall usage conditions of the wood.

The cost over time of replacing and maintaining plywood quickly adds up with the average lifespan of plywood being very short and dependent on where and how it is used. Conversely, with its Limited Lifetime Warranty, you can rest assured that ground protection mats will last for years.

The True Cost of Using Plywood

The main reason plywood is the ground protection choice among many contractors is the low initial investment. However, in the long-term, using plywood as ground protection is much more expensive than Checkers purpose-designed ground protection solution.



Approximate Cost of Replacing 12 Sheets of Plywood 4 Times Per Year For:

1 YEAR	\$3,600
2 YEAR	\$7,200
5 YEAR	\$18,000
10 YEAR	\$36,000

ROI by Using Ground Protection Matting

By taking the average cost vs plywood, our matting it will provide ROI in less than 13 months (based on replacing plywood every 3 months). In just the first year of using the product in all of your ground protection requirements you will already have recovered nearly all of your initial investment to and you can take advantage of a lifetime warranty (on select SKUs). Our products have been designed to provide a high load capacity, provide additional traction, and operate in harsh conditions, you can find comfort in knowing that ground protection mats will far exceed the lifespan of any plywood saving you money in the long term and providing you with a safer, more durable solution.

Year	ROI
1	95%
2	182%
10	950%
15	1425%

Ground Protection Mats CAN PROVIDE A **100% ROI** IN JUST 13 MONTHS



AlturnaMat®

Ground Protection Mats vs Plywood

Ground Protection Matting

Designed to handle heavy loads

Able to be connected to keep your roadway in place

High ROI - long life helps you keep it for many years

Able to be easily cleaned to avoid cross contamination

Variety of tread options for vehicles, pedestrians traffic

Plywood

Short life span - frequently 1 project resulting in higher cost of ownership

Not able to be interlocked - can move during operations

No weight rating resulting in unpredictable performance

No tread or alternate color options limiting performance or impacting subsurfaces

Risk of cross contamination

Checkers Ground Protection Solutions

Checkers has a full range of market leading ground protection mats delivering a safer working environment for temporary access roadways, trackways, and working platforms. Our range of ground protection mats are capable of supporting heavy loads of up to 120 tons* and are highly resilient even in the most extreme weather and ground conditions. With our diverse range of ground protection mats, Checkers is able to provide you with a ground protection solution for any application.

AlturnaMat®

The bold diamond cleat surface of this mat makes it perfect for giving strong traction and grip. Featuring an impressive load capacity of 120 tons, its lightweight design makes it easy, and quick to deploy by hand.

- 100% recycled High Density Polyethylene
- 6 sizes and clear version available to meet your unique needs
- Smallest size (2' x 4') weight: 21.5 lbs (9.75 kg)
- Largest size (4' x 8') weight: 86 lbs (39 kg)
- Depth 0.5" (12 mm)
- Load bearing up to 120 tons
- Limited Lifetime Warranty
- Connector options available to create a secure roadway or work platform
- Optional hand holes for ease of maneuverability

VersaMat®

The VersaMat® with VersaTread® surface was developed to make the mat more multi-functional for users that need to provide a safe walking platform with the additional benefit of a heavy load capacity for construction equipment. Its lightweight design makes it easy, and quick to deploy by hand.

- 100% recycled High Density Polyethylene
- 3 sizes and clear versions available
- Smallest size (2' x 8') weight: 43 lbs (19.5 kg)
- Largest size (4' x 8') weight: 86 lbs (39 kg)
- Depth 0.5" (12 mm)
- Load bearing up to 90 tons
- Limited Lifetime Warranty
- Connector options available to create a secure roadway or work platform
- Optional hand holes for ease of maneuverability

Checkers offers a full range of market leading composite ground protection mats delivering a safer work environment for temporary access roadways, trackways, and working platforms.
www.checkers.justrite.com

