

# WINDSCREEN INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

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Windscreens for tennis courts serve many purposes besides just being a barrier to help reduce and/or deflect the wind. Other benefits are that they provide privacy and screen out distractions as well as provide a visual contrast of the tennis ball on the windscreen background which allows the player(s) to see the ball better. Windscreens also help reduce reflection of the sun's glare off the fencing or other items surrounding the court.

### **WINDSCREEN INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. To install the windscreens, you will need at least two people, a ladder, and tie wraps (zip ties). The tie wraps should be rated at 50lbs of breaking strength for the tops and sides and 120lbs of breaking strength for the bottom.
- 2. Lay the windscreen out on the inside of the tennis court in front of the section of fence you are attaching. The windscreens are always hung on the inside of the fence. Save yourself time and make sure the fit of the windscreen is correct for that section of fence. You do not want to hang the entire windscreen to find out that it was for a different section and it is in an incorrect spot and that it is 6" too long or too short as some sections of fence can be very similar.
- 3. The hems of the windscreen should face outside the tennis court so that they are not seen from the inside of the tennis court. Ideally the windscreens should be hung from the inside of the tension bar on one end (the tension bar is the bar just inside the fence post that the fence and fence hardware attach to) to inside the tension bar of the opposite end.
- 4. The windscreen should be hung so that the top is attached at the top rail of the fence. Most fences are 10 feet high. And most windscreens are 9 feet high so you should have a one foot opening at the bottom. This is to allow dirt and debris to escape and to keep the windscreen from getting dirty.
- 5. Begin fastening the windscreen at one top corner using tie wraps rated at 50lbs of breaking strength. Continue fastening the windscreen across the top, making sure you are keeping it level and are only using 50lb tie wraps. Attach the windscreen using every grommet from one end to the other, like a zipper. Do not try to skip ahead to keep the windscreen up while attaching as it will become wrinkled. The second person can hold the windscreen up to help release some tension.
- 6. Once the top has been attached, fasten the bottom using tie wraps rated at 120lbs of breaking strength. You can start at one corner and work your way across but we prefer to start at the middle and work our way to the ends. The reason is that as you are attaching the bottom, you need to pull the windscreen firmly so there are no creases or wrinkles. If you start in the middle, you can work the creases out to the corners. If you start at the end, you may create one big crease or wrinkle that is tough to work out by the time you get to the other end.
- 7. Once the bottom has been fastened, attach the sides using the 50lb breaking strength tie wraps.

### NOTES:

1. When using a ladder to install/remove the windscreens do not drag the ladder across the courts as it could scratch the surface and cause damage. Always lift and set down the ladder when moving it.



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2. The reason we recommend tie wraps over string or something more rigid is because they will break away from the fence during high wind storms. During significantly high winds, it is better for the ties to break and allow the wind to pass through the fence structure than the windscreens to remain and catch the wind. If the wind is strong enough, the windscreens can damage the fence structure or even topple the entire fence. The windscreen is designed to break away at the top and sides (at 50lbs of force) and stay attached at the bottom (at 120lbs of force) so it does not blow around and cause damage. Another benefit is that when you remove your windscreens for storage, the tie wraps are quick and easy to remove. A downside of tie wraps is that they may break off and be seen lying around the perimeter of the tennis court. Always replace broken or missing tie wraps when they are noticed.

#### MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS:

Always gently hose down the windscreen for cleaning. This allows the force of the water to remove grit and other abrasive particles that may damage the screen over time. Let the product air dry before storing. If the windscreen ever gets cut or torn be sure to repair it immediately.

If you plan to remove the windscreens during the winter months and place them in storage, which we would recommend if you have the time and ability to pay for the labor to reinstall, draw a diagram of the tennis court layout and label the windscreens. Doing so will save you time and frustration when the windscreens need to be reinstalled. When removing the windscreens for storage, always roll them up and do not fold them. You want to avoid creasing the fabric so it lasts longer and looks neater for the next time you install it. Laying a protective tarp over the roll is a good idea to avoid dust, dirt, etc. from collecting on it – depending on what type of storage area you have.