

## Picking the Right Gymnasium Floor!

As a society, our expectations are high. We demand quality, integrity and accountability – not only from the people in our lives, but also from the products and services we select to make our lives easier and better. And, while we may compare and contrast features, benefits and relevance – the products and the people behind them can still fall short of our expectations if we don't ask all the right questions to ensure we are getting what we want and need.

When it comes to athletic flooring, the expectations are: performance, safety, resilience and long-term durability.

So, when the time comes to invest in gymnasium or other athletic flooring, it's important to ask questions to learn about your surfacing options as well as about the character of the company you will hire to do the work.

For most schools, churches and organizations that are renovating or replacing their gym or multi-purpose room flooring, the surfacing options are typically narrowed to three choices – wood, a poured urethane surface or a resilient surface. To make the best choice, the decision-makers need to consider several factors: budget, surface usage and expectations for long-term customer service.

Traditionally, hardwood is the surface of choice for a gymnasium floor even though it requires new clear coating on an average every 10 -12 years, but as the need for multi-use surfaces increases, synthetic surfaces such as poured urethane and resilient surfaces are proving to be a durable – not to mention – more affordable option.

A poured urethane surface is roughly two-thirds the cost of a wood floor and offers greater versatility over its hard wood counterpart, but still require a re-surface skim coat after 10 years.

A resilient sport flooring option like GYM FLEX™ by FLEX COURT is the most economical solution and requires little to no maintenance.



which is more sensitive to damage caused by water or the wrong type of foot traffic, a resilient surface is durable enough to handle other non-sport related events such as meetings, dances and church services. A resilient floor is traditionally the floor of choice by Volleyball players and coaches.

Investing in any type of athletic or recreational surface is a big decision, but it doesn't need to be overwhelming. By demanding more of all companies within the surfacing industry, the likelihood that the best value is chosen increases significantly. Know what your needs are before purchasing an expensive floor. Asking the right questions will ensure many years of enjoyment and performance from your surfacing systems.

It is one third or less in cost compared to wood flooring and about half of poured flooring. While also providing a worry-free, multi-purpose surface ideal for basketball, volleyball, indoor tennis and jogging and, unlike a wooden surface,