

Items involved in choosing a suitable location

Passage

Especially for your first exercise benches, it is best to choose spots where there is a lot of passage of walkers, runners and/or cyclists. Examples:

- Near parking lot - as a meeting place, where people meet prior to their walk or activity
- At the start of a loop / exercise route / cycle route

Visibility

- Position the bench visibly, but not too much in sight
 - o Otherwise the non-mover will not be inclined to use it
 - o At the bottom of an apartment building may not be the most suitable location

Benches in the neighbourhood

- o Not too many benches in the immediate vicinity
 - o People tend to choose the easiest solution...
- o For less mobile people
 - o Also provide other resting places/benches within walking distance

Accessibility

- Height differences in the ground and surface slope
 - o Beware of thresholds
 - o The flatter the better (wheelchair, rollator, elderly, ...)
- If on soft ground
 - o Not too far into the (possibly wet) grass
 - o Preferably near a (semi-)paved path

Sitting direction

- o Where do you look when you sit?
- o Preferably a nice (distant) view (of greenery)

Sun - shade

- Take into account the position of the sun (especially with elderly).

Playground

- The activity bench is not a playground equipment (EN1176), but it complies with EN16630 (outdoor fitness equipment).
- If the equipment is to be placed near playground equipment or in a play area, EN16879 must be respected (Siting of playground and other recreational facilities).

Multiple use

- Looking for a suitable location, be inspired by some good practices described on our website.
Examples: in the vicinity of a school or sports complex, service centre, youth movement, elderly facility, business complex, industrial park, ...

Social control

- Lantern lighting makes people feel safer
- Distance from habitation

Obstacle free space

- Space should be provided, especially at the rear in relation to the use of the cords
- Check the technical data sheets of the different models:
 - Large and Large Plus: 6 (w) x 5 (d) m
 - Medium and Medium Plus: 5 x 5 m
 - Small and Small Plus: 4 x 5 m

Trees

- In case of earthworks
 - Inform yourself about the range and depth in relation to the surface of the roots
- Take leaf fall into account (maintenance - bird droppings)
- It is often requested to remain outside the crown projection

Surface

- In case of mobile activity bench
 - Check 'subsoil requirements' document
- In case of earthworks
 - Free of pipes/pipelines

Site accessibility regarding the installation

- Length - width of access road
- Parking possibility
- Bollards in the way