

HDB playgrounds through the years

1960s to early 1970s

With the primary focus on housing the nation, the first Housing Board playgrounds were fuss-free, no-frills affairs, comprising functional equipment such as slides and swings.



Mid-1970s to 1980s

Many HDB in-house designers drew inspiration from local heritage to create concrete structures such as dragons and birds. From the mid-1980s, playgrounds were inspired by nursery rhymes and children's games like Humpty Dumpty and Snakes and Ladders. Some also depicted local fruit and vegetables, such as mangosteens and watermelons.



1990s and 2000s

More safety guidelines were put in place, and sandy pits made way for rubber mats, and concrete structures and mosaic tiles for plastic modular playgrounds. In the 2000s, there was an emphasis on inclusive community spaces, with the introduction of fitness areas and other family bonding areas to cater for a multi-generation experience.



Today

Thematic playgrounds will be built around a neighbourhood's history like this military-themed one in Chua Chu Kang, the precinct that used to be home to Keat Hong Camp.

