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*Our team is here for you!*

# Mat Tips



[sport-thieme.com/mats](https://sport-thieme.com/mats)



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Dear  
Customer,

We hope you enjoy your Sport-Thieme mats.

With this booklet, we aim to provide you with information on **important decision-making factors** for you to consider when deciding on the right mat for your needs. In addition, this booklet also includes valuable tips about the **storage** and **transport** of gymnastics mats which help you to extend their lifespan.

Best wishes

*Max Hohe*

Maximilian Hohe  
Managing Director, Sport-Thieme

## Decision-making factors for mat types

The decision as to which type of mat to use should be based on the following criteria:

- Age group / body weight (primary or secondary education)
- The pupils' performance level
- Exercises they will undertake
- The jumping/falling height
- Type of landing

The mat should have optimal shock-absorbing qualities but also be sufficiently firm.



### DENSITY

This is an indication of the foam's quality, given in  $\text{kg/m}^3$ . The density tells you the foam's weight per  $\text{m}^3$ . The higher the density, the better and longer lasting the mat.

### SINKING DEPTH

The sinking depth is the ability of the mat to change shape on impact, and to maintain the gymnast's stability. It is divided into the following 3 levels:

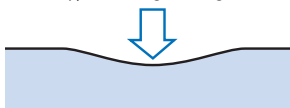
#### Low sinking depth:

- Artistic gymnastics mats, types 1-3
- Floor gymnastics mats, types 1-3



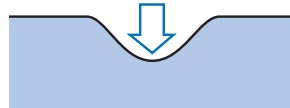
#### Moderate sinking depth with a flatter footprint:

- Mats, types 4-6, e.g. landing mats



#### High sinking depth:

- Soft floor mats, types 7-10



### FOR YOUR SAFETY:

Always use gymnastics mats for their intended purpose and, above all, ensure that you have enough shock absorption in line with the European standard.

## Gymnastics mats for different requirements



Mats are essential for the safety and the comfort of any athlete. Regardless of whether it is for use in artistic gymnastics or floor exercises, in high jump or in playful exercises in children's gymnastics - we offer you a suitable mat for **any area of use**.



The entire range of products online at:  
[sport-thieme.com/mats](https://sport-thieme.com/mats)

### GYMNASTICS MATS

Gymnastics mats are versatile. In **artistic gymnastics**, they provide important fall protection and absorb the impact after dismounting or vaulting.

They provide a padded surface for **floor exercises**. In **toddler groups**, gymnastics mats form a soft, insulating surface that small children can feel comfortable

on. Due to their low shock absorption properties, gymnastics mats are only suitable for use with jumps from a **maximum height of 60 cm**.

### LANDING, SOFT FLOOR AND HIGH JUMP MATS

Regardless of whether they are for use in **artistic gymnastics**, **high jump** or **playful exercises in children's gymnastics**, soft floor and landing mats are a must-have in any sports hall. Soft

floor mats are the **ideal fall protection** for use in artistic gymnastics and optimally absorb the impact when landing after **uncontrolled dismounts** and vaults. For **controlled dismounts**, we

recommend firmer landing mats. They allow for a **safe landing in a standing position**.

### FLOOR EXERCISE MATS

Floor exercise mats, or floor exercise runners, are special gymnastics mats that are perfect for **floor exercises** or

for **positioning on top of soft floor mats in artistic gymnastics**. They can be easily combined to form a large sur-

face and are predominantly used in **rhythmic gymnastics**, **acrobatics** and for **floor exercises**.

### GYMNASTICS MAT ACCESSORIES

#### Velcro fastener corners



#### Velcro fastener corners

For connecting several mats together to create a larger surface

**Recommended:** An ideal accessory for gymnastics mats with a low net weight.

#### Carrying handles



#### Carrying handles

Made from webbing (100% polypropylene), sit tightly against the mat

**Recommended:** Make carrying mats with a higher net weight easier.

#### Leather corners



#### Leather corners

For protecting mat corners



## Safety in sports halls

In order to be able to guarantee safety during the everyday use of gymnastics mats, the series of European standards EN 12503 was developed through years of collaboration be-

tween the European standardisation and testing institutes as well as numerous experts. Basically, in EN 12503-1 mats are divided into 10 types depending on their

intended use. The corresponding classifications can be seen in the table below. The corresponding type of mat listed should be used for each area of use described. The mats are subject to strict testing criteria.

Types that comply with EN 12503-1 standards Classification by types and areas of use		Safety requirements on absorption properties			Exercise use	Area of use	Recommended mats
Type	Typical use	Max. braking acceleration g (1 g = 9.81 m/s)	Sinking depth (mm)	Restore coefficient % (rebound height)			
1	Mat for floor exercises without vaulting (beginners)	≤ 80	Not required	Not required	Floor exercises	Nurseries, pre- and primary schools	<b>Sport-Thieme</b> children's mat, <b>Reivo</b> gymnastics mat
2	Mat for floor exercises with vaults (Floor exercises mat, 4 cm)	≤ 65	≤ 35	20 – 60	Floor exercises, rhythmic gymnastics	Schools and clubs	<b>Sport-Thieme</b> floor exercise mat (35/40 mm)
3	Mat for floor exercises with a vault for landings (gymnastics mat, 6 cm)	≤ 40	≤ 50	≤ 55	Floor exercises, landings from max. 60-cm drop height	Nurseries, schools and clubs	<b>Sport-Thieme</b> gymnastics mats with min. thickness of 6 cm
4	Mat for simple dismounts from apparatus with controlled landing (landing mat, 12 cm)	≤ 40	≤ 110	≤ 50	Landing from more than 60 cm drop height	Schools and clubs	<b>Sport-Thieme</b> artistic gymnastics mat (8 cm), <b>Reivo Kombi</b> reversible mat, <b>Sport-Thieme</b> landing mat (12 cm)
5	Landing mat (landing mat, 15 cm)	≤ 25	≤ 110	≤ 30	Landing from more than 60 cm drop height	Schools and clubs	<b>Sport-Thieme</b> landing mat (15 cm)
6	Mat for difficult dismounts (competition landing mat, 20 cm)	≤ 14	≤ 105	≤ 15	Landing from more than 60 cm drop height	Schools and clubs	<b>Sport-Thieme</b> competition landing mat (20 cm)
7	Soft floor mat for simple exercises (30 or 40 cm)	≤ 35	≤ 185	≤ 25	High jump, max. drop height 2 m	Schools and clubs	<b>Sport-Thieme</b> soft floor mat (30 or 40 cm)
8	Soft floor mat (30 cm), density 22 kg	≤ 20	≤ 250	≤ 25	High jump, max. drop height 2 m	Schools and clubs	<b>Sport-Thieme</b> soft floor mat (30 cm)
9	Mats for high jump	≤ 10	≤ 70	≤ 20	High jump, max. drop height 2 m	Schools and clubs	<b>Sport-Thieme</b> standard high jump mat
10	Mats for high jump (competition)	≤ 10	≤ 60	≤ 20	High jump, max. drop height 2 m	Schools and clubs	<b>Sport-Thieme</b> super high jump mat

## Sport-Thieme gymnastics mats

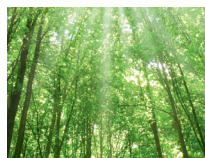
### PROVEN QUALITY



#### Sport-Thieme mats

Our mats continually undergo in-house quality control checks. This is the only way to guarantee that the quality the customer demands is delivered.

### SUSTAINABILITY



Upon request, we will take back your old gymnastics and soft floor mats when you buy new mats from us. **The foam core will be recycled and used again in the manufacturing process.** Please enquire about collection costs in advance.

## Types of material and construction

### GYMNASTICS MAT CORES



- Foam from foam flakes that have undergone a special pressing and gluing process
- Particularly resistant yet also flexible
- Density: 80, 100 or 120 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Use: gymnastics mat



- Expanded polypropylene foam, mainly sealed foam particles
- Good resilience to static and dynamic loads
- Density: low
- Use: gymnastics mat



- Several layers of polyethylene foam glued on top of one another (sandwich design)
- Highly stable yet lightweight
- Density: 30 kg/m<sup>3</sup> (for gymnastics mats)
- Use: floor exercise mat



- Polyurethane foam
- High shape stability
- Density: minimum 20 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Use: soft floor mat

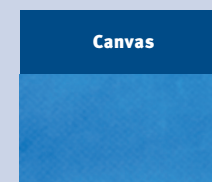
### GYMNASTICS MAT SURFACES



- Grained structure
- Non-slip
- 100% polyester
- Tensile strength: 2,500 N
- 600 g/m<sup>2</sup>



- Non-slip
- Pimpled structure
- Protects against skin grazes
- 100% polyester
- Tensile strength: min. 2,500 N



- Smooth surface
- 100% polyester
- Tensile strength: 2,500 N
- 650 g/m<sup>2</sup>

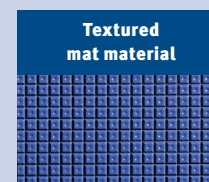


- No wrinkling due to a strong bond between the core and cover
- No burns
- Skin friendly
- Stable underfoot

### GYMNASTICS MAT UNDERSIDES



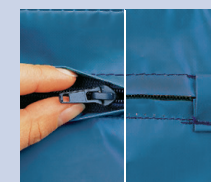
- Non-slip



- Particularly non-slip thanks to special pimpled surface



- Extremely non-slip



- **Particularly safe:** concealed zip improves safety!

### SAFETY

## Transport and storage

- Storing and transporting mats appropriately, as well as using them as intended, **extends a mat's service life and functional use.**
- Mats should **not be subjected to buckling or bending loads**, as this can damage the internal structure of the mat.

We therefore recommend that mats are stored flat - preferably on a **mat trolley**.

- Whilst being stored, mats should not be subjected to **extreme changes in temperature** or **high levels of humidity** and should also be protected from exposure to **direct sunlight**.

### GYMNASTICS MATS

**Storage:** On a mat trolley (observe the manufacturer's information on max. load) that is suitable for the size of the mats (no overhangs); up to a maximum of 12 gymnastics mats per trolley.

**Transport:** Using mat trolleys; loading and unloading on the narrow side. In primary school usage, a minimum of four students is required to carry mats whilst in secondary schools a minimum of two students is required. Only carry mats vertically.

### LANDING, SOFT FLOOR AND HIGH JUMP MATS

**Storage:** Optimally stored flat, alternatively they can be stored vertically against a wall and secured with 2 straps. The mats should not sag.

**Transport:** Carried vertically or transported on a special trolley.



Appropriate mat trolleys can be found online at: [sport-thieme.com/mat-trolleys](http://sport-thieme.com/mat-trolleys)

### FLOOR EXERCISES MATS (RUNNERS)

**Storage:** Rolled up around a core with the felt covering on the outside and secured with a belt or Velcro strap. Can be stored standing or can be hung up.

**Transport:** Carried vertically or transported on a special trolley.

## Maintenance



### MAINTAINING MATS YOURSELF

In order to check whether the mat material is still fit for landings, the mats have to be **inspected regularly**. The checks detailed in the **checklist** on page 7 are easy

to perform and give a quick indication of whether the mat is fit for use.

## Checklist for checking the condition of your mat

### VISUAL CHECK RECOMMENDED EVERY 3 MONTHS



- Mat cover (rips due to wear and tear):** Does the cover of the mat have any visible damage or soiling?
- Leather corners (completely stitched):** Are all of the leather corners still fully stitched? CAUTION: Accident risk!
- Mat surface:** Does the mat have any obvious deformation or holes in the landing area? CAUTION: Accident risk!
- Carrying handles/loops (completely stitched):** Are all of the carrying handles/straps still securely stitched? Handles cause damage to the mat if torn off! **Note:** Carrying handles/straps must not be used to hang mats!

### CHECKING THE FILLING RECOMMENDED ONCE A YEAR



- Tears in the foam:** Has the foam developed tears?
- The foam is no longer uniform or has split into pieces:** Is the foam still a solid block, or has it split into individual pieces?

### CHECKING THE ZIP RECOMMENDED AFTER EVERY USE



- Correct:** Zips must be completely closed.
- CAUTION:** If the zip bulges outwards and some of the teeth no longer interlock, you can solve the issue by doing the following: carefully pull the zip pull back to the start of the zip and then close the zip once more.
- Note:** The zip pull can often be found under a flap. If it is not possible to pull the zip pull with your fingers, a small pair of pliers or a paper clip should help.

### MAINTENANCE AND CARE



- Cleaning:** We recommend cleaning dirty mats with water and soap-based detergents.
- Care:** When looking after your mat, you should use care products suitable for use on plastic.

► If the mat shows any signs of wear or damage to the internal core, the mat should be put to one side and no longer used.

► Upon request we can send you a suitable replacement mat cover or core. We are happy to advise you!

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# YOUR SERVICE BENEFITS

## 1. TELEPHONE SUPPORT

We are here to answer all of your concerns, big or small, on +49 5357 181 503  
Mon-Fri 8:00–12:30 and 13:30–16:00

## 2. MINIMUM 3-YEAR GUARANTEE

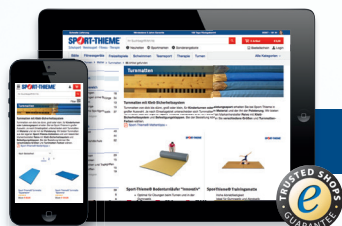
### **At Sport-Thieme you are buying quality. Guaranteed!**

We go beyond the legal provisions and provide a minimum 3-year guarantee – often even longer, up to 25 years! You can find more information about this in the product descriptions in the particular article and in our terms and conditions at [sport-thieme.com/terms-and-conditions](http://sport-thieme.com/terms-and-conditions)

## 3. 100-DAY RETURNS POLICY

### **Buy from Sport-Thieme with peace of mind:**

You can return purchased products within 100 days of receipt without giving any reason. You can find more information about this in our terms and conditions at [sport-thieme.com/terms-and-conditions](http://sport-thieme.com/terms-and-conditions)



**Find more at  
sport-thieme.com:**

**[sport-thieme.com/mats](http://sport-thieme.com/mats)**

Discover our wide range of mats, practical accessories and tips on how to use them!

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