

**We've made cleanliness and safety our business...  
because *yours* depends on it.**



## **FAQ**

### ***Where are GermBLOCK ball-pit balls made?***

We are 21<sup>ST</sup> Century Products, Inc., and our GermBLOCK ball-pit balls are 100% made in the USA, from USA-sourced materials in Greensboro, North Carolina. Formerly the Play Division of Intertech Corporation (and now an independent company) We have been making ball-pit balls here since 1991.

### ***How are they made?***

GERMBLOCK ball-pit balls are blow-molded from polyethylene plastic, the same type of plastic from which milk and other common product containers are made. The blow-molding process has several stages: blending, conveying, molding, trimming, packaging and scrap recovery. We use a fully automated, computer-controlled manufacturing process that ensures a consistent, high quality product. Our trademarked GermBLOCK agent is added to the plastic material (called the "substrate") in the blending stage, before it is molded. GermBLOCK is not a surface coating; it is an integral part of the plastic itself.

### ***How do GermBLOCK balls work against harmful germs?***

GermBLOCK balls prevent the spread of germs by penetrating their cell wall and blocking their ability to reproduce and nourish themselves. The active ingredients in GermBLOCK have been successfully tested against over 50 common organisms, such as MRSA, E. coli, and Salmonella, (to list a few.) As an integral part of the plastic that makes up the ball, GermBLOCK'S effectiveness never wanes or wears out – it is good for the life of the ball.

### ***Are they recyclable?***

GERMBLOCK ball-pit balls are made tough and will last practically forever, even in outdoor environments—they are made with protectants that make them resistant to fading or cracking from the sun and/or extreme temperatures. However, they are also 100% recyclable. They are mainly composed of Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE) which makes them a "Type 4" Plastic for recycling purposes.

### ***Can GermBLOCK ball-pit balls be harmful in any way?***

GermBLOCK balls are safe for children (and adults, too.) They are molded of nontoxic materials, and have no sharp edges along the parting lines (also known as "flash") which could scratch or cut tender skin. The non-plastic ingredients such as color pigments are lead free. Every year, we use an independent laboratory testing service to comply with the CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT of 2008, and ASTM F963-7 regarding hazardous metals—our ball-pit balls far exceed the standards required by these tests, year after year.

### ***Do GermBLOCK ball-pit balls fade if left in the sun?***

GermBLOCK ball-pit balls are made with UV and antioxidant additives to protect against fading and cracking—they are designed for indoor and outdoor use. Like any plastic product, they will eventually show some fading if continuously exposed to direct sunlight.

### ***If I have GermBLOCK balls, and don't have to worry about germs so much, how often should I clean my ball-pool/ball-pit?***

Germblock ball-pit balls help protect against harmful germs by disabling their vital systems, with the complete process (depends on the germ) taking a maximum of 24 hours. While GermBLOCK is extremely effective eradicating germs, they don't remove and or kill them immediately, as a chemical-based, biocidal antimicrobial detergent does. And they don't clean off dirt, dust, or what's left behind when children have "accidents." Even ball-pit operators who clean daily are still faced with the challenge of cleaning up quickly after a child has an accident, or close the ball-pit until it can be cleaned. Fortunately, a [HYGENIE™](#) ballwashing system can make that job a lot easier. HyGenie systems use a multi-patented three-step process of UV light, high-speed rotary brushing and antimicrobial detergent, which cleans and sanitizes your entire ball-pit or "spot cleans" a soiled area at the rate of 8-11,000 balls an hour. GermBLOCK balls give the peace of mind that any harmful germs that may have survived the cleaning process will be gone in a maximum 24-hour period, but does not remove the need for proper cleaning. The bottom line is, the more guests you have using your ball-pit; the more often it should be cleaned.

### ***How many balls do I need to fill my ball-pit?***

1 - First determine how many cubic feet makes up the space you want to fill by measuring the inside length, width and depth of your ball-pit. Multiply them all together (length x width x depth) — and you have your "fillable" ball-pit area in cubic feet.

2 - DIVIDE THAT ANSWER BY SEVEN. (One case of 500 balls will fill 7 cubic feet.) The result is the number of cases you'll need.

Example: A ball-pit is eight feet long, eight feet wide, and 3 feet tall, and you want to fill it two (2) feet deep to leave some room so the balls don't spill out so easily.

8' (L) x 8' (W) x 2' (D) = 128 cubic feet of volume. Divided by seven (7) you get 18.29. You will need 18 or 19 cases to fill your ball-pit 2 feet deep with balls.

Please [contact us](#) if you need assistance, we'd love to hear from you.

### ***Do you ship GermBLOCK ball-pit balls overseas?***

Yes. We have customers all over the world who have a need for high-quality, long lasting ball-pit balls. As shipping charges run higher for international shipments, large orders that can be combined with other merchandise in a sea cargo container will be the most cost effective.

### ***How quickly will I receive my order for GermBLOCK ball-pit balls?***

All in-stock product is shipped within 24 – 72 hours after payment. Out of stock colors may take longer. Shipping and delivery dates for custom work will be quoted along with the cost before the order is placed.

Have additional questions?

Please email [info@21stcpi.com](mailto:info@21stcpi.com) or call us at 1-800-364-BALL (2255)



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