

# Dressage Arena Sand Spec

Engineered for uniform cadence, consistent depth, and balanced movement.

## Sand Specification

Specification	Recommended Range
Sand Type	Washed silica, sub-angular
Particle Size (D50)	0.20 – 0.50 mm (fine to medium), well-graded
Gradation	Well-graded; minimal >1.0 mm fraction
Fines Content (<0.075 mm)	3% – 6% by weight
Particle Shape	Sub-angular for uniform interlock and consistent rebound
Hardness (Mohs)	≥ 6.5 silica; avoid soft carbonates
Footing Depth	2.5 – 3.5 inches over a laser-graded base
Base	Compacted stabilized aggregate, 4–6 in; precision-laser graded
Moisture Target	10% – 14% — LOCK + scheduled irrigation
Recommended Additives	Moderate FIBR for depth retention, light FLEX for rebound, moderate LOCK. Arena Green™ dressage blend on request.

## Why This Spec Works

- Uniform sub-angular grains deliver the same response in every corner — critical for collected and extended work.
- Moderate FIBR holds depth across the centerline and corners so the track does not wear into ruts under daily training.
- Shallow profile preserves cadence and protects suspensory ligaments from over-deep, energy-robbing surfaces.

## Outdoor-Specific Considerations

- Laser-grade base to ±3 mm tolerance; dressage exposes every dip.
- Crown 1% with perimeter drains; avoid puddling along the rail.
- Re-grade base every 2–3 years to maintain absolute uniformity.

## Common Failure Modes to Avoid

- **Too deep:** labored gaits, sore suspensories.
- **Coarse / rounded river sand:** shifts under lateral work.
- **High fines (>8%):** packs unevenly, creates hard and soft zones.

### Need a tuned ArenaSpec™ for your facility?

Every arena is different. Climate, base condition, traffic, and discipline intensity all change the ideal blend. Request a custom ArenaSpec™ Report Card at [performancefooting.com](https://performancefooting.com) or call 877-835-0878.

This spec sheet reflects general industry guidance for outdoor arenas built on a properly engineered base. It is not a substitute for site-specific testing. Performance Footing® and ArenaSpec™ are trademarks of Performance Footing.