B1K
BATTLING A THOUSAND
THE
ULTIMATE PLAYING
EXPERIENCE
FOR ALL AREAS
OF THE DIAMOND

shaw
SPORTS TURF
Thanks to Shaw Sports Turf’s revolutionary synthetic turf system designed to the specific needs of softball, the game surface is evolving. Artificial isn’t a forgotten option anymore. B1K: Batting A Thousand ushers in a new generation of turf and along with it the next level of playability. Now really, let’s play ball.

For this purist game, the approach is different than other sports. Each area of the field is meant to have different playability characteristics. At Shaw Sports Turf we have dedicated ourselves to researching high-end fields and how athletes perform on them to develop artificial turf systems that play true in all areas of the field.
Comparing both natural grass and synthetic turf field characteristics, Shaw Sports Turf set out to develop a method with softball organizations and academic partners to evaluate a softball field’s playability. Using a specially designed cannon to replicate ball speeds and angles off the bat and off the surface, different types of data such as ball roll, pace and bounce were collected using high speed cameras along with other surface testing equipment.

Compiling this data on a multitude of different fields, both collegiate and professional, set up an ideal playing surface benchmark for designing our systems.

**SURFACE PERFORMANCE**

**RESEARCH**

**SHAW SPORTS TURF’S SIGNATURE SOFTBALL CANNON LEADS THE WAY AS AN INNOVATIVE BENCHMARKING TECHNIQUE. WE TEST FIELDS WITH OPTIMAL PLAYABILITY TO RAISE THE BAR FOR OUR NEW GENERATION OF SOFTBALL TURF, B1K.**

**BOUNCE DIFFERENCE**

between natural & artificial system options
Playability isn’t just about the surface alone; it’s also about an athlete’s interactions with it while performing the movements required by sport. Working with our university research partners, we were able to study those very movements in detail. Attaching sensors to record and analyze athletes on several different surface types, multiple synthetic systems as well as natural, revealed how the body reacts to each of them. For the benefit of the player, the surface should provide less energy rebound and less leg stiffness.

**Key Factor: Energy Rebound**

The key component found was energy rebound, or the amount of energy return from the surface upon impact, is a factor in performance. Not only does it affect the angles and trajectory of the ball based on surface type, the amount of energy rebound factors into an athlete’s confidence of step. The quicker and easier it is for the body to find a balance, the better the athlete performs.
Shaw Sports Turf’s Playability Tool is a visual representation of data collected through a battery of standard tests that score a field based on how it measures on each. Research shows that what’s important to one sport’s performance, may not be as important to another. In the graph seen here, the better the field tests in the orange highlighted criteria, the better it is for softball.

TAKING THE RESULTS FOUND FROM ALL OF THIS DATA, B1K WAS CREATED AS A COMPREHENSIVE SOFTBALL SOLUTION DESIGNED FOR HIGH-END PERFORMANCE.
## B1K: A Product of the Research Results

**WARNING TRACK**
- **TRUTRACK**: a solution that can be heard & felt when approaching the wall

**OUTFIELD**
- **TAG UP**: a hybrid product with a natural, well-manicured aesthetic

**INFIELD**
- **TAG UP**: a hybrid synthetic product with a natural, well-manicured aesthetic

**MOUND**
- **FULL COUNT**: a sturdy synthetic mound option to handle pitch after pitch

**SKINS**
- **SIX4THREE**: using a sturdy fiber construction for added durability around the bases, a product that mimics the characteristics of clay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>WARNING TRACK</th>
<th>CLAY/PLATE</th>
<th>MOUND</th>
<th>INFIELD (GRASS)</th>
<th>OUTFIELD (GRASS)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>B1K NATURAL</strong></td>
<td>TRUTRACK</td>
<td>SIX4THREE</td>
<td>FULL COUNT</td>
<td>TAG UP</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>B1K DOUBLE PLAY</strong></td>
<td>TRUTRACK</td>
<td>SIX4THREE</td>
<td>FULL COUNT</td>
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