Article Side

3 Things to Consider when Renovating Your Gymnasiumâ€™s Basketball Court by Cathey Lee

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A basketball court wears out over the years. The floor doesnâ€™t have the spring it used to have. The baskets get loose. The court begins to take on a dingy appearance.

There comes a time when renovation is needed.

If you have decided to renovate the basketball court in your facilityâ€”or if youâ€™re considering itâ€“you h three key areas to consider.

1. FLOORING

Hardwood is the traditional choice. It is the ideal for basketball court flooring. Hardwood is expensive and requires diligent maintenance, but it definitely offers the best player experience. The hardwood (maple is typical) is covered with a protective sealant to maintain appearance and prolong its life.

Another option is synthetic flooring composed of materials such as rubber, PVC, or polyurethane. Synthetic flooring is typically less expensive than hardwood, is easier to install, and requires less maintenance than hardwood. Synthetic flooring is also more flexible than hardwood, easing stress on playersâ€™ feet and knees.

A company familiar with basketball court renovation can help you answer questions such as whether you can install on top of an existing court and what type of flooring makes the most sense for your needs and budget.

2. BASKETS (BACKSTOPS, BACKBOARDS, RIMS, AND NETS)

Be sure to buy a quality backboard that provides a crisp rebound. For a gymnasium, the only real choice of backboard material is glass. And the preferred shape is rectangular, as opposed to curved fan designs.

For rims on courts that will be used at the high-school level or above, itâ€™s best to buy breakaways, although they are more expensive.

In selecting backstops, backboards, rims, and nets, itâ€™s often best to buy each from the same manufacturer to ensure compatibility. Itâ€™s also wise to choose an established manufacturer thatâ€™s known for its quality, such as Spalding.

If you have a school gym, be sure to pay attention to NHFS- National Federation of State High School Associations, NCAA and NCFE regulations regarding goals.

3. PAINTING

This is an area in which you can get a lot of â€œbang for your buckâ€• in terms of appearance. Multicolor schemes can be used in the court lining and out-of-bounds areas to highlight school colors and display logos and team names.

Your use of paint colors can elevate your gymâ€™s appearance from ordinary to striking. (You can also

use accessories such as gym padding with logos to enhance appearance and promote school spirit.)

BOTTOM LINE

When renovating a basketball court, think about long-term costs, player satisfaction, and appearance. Often, the cheapest upfront price wonâ€™t be the best solution. You can work with an experienced installer and seller of basketball court equipment to ensure that you are getting the quality you need at the best price.

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