

How to lay your turf

The success of a turf lawn relies on the correct ground preparation and care in the preparation as well as the first few days and weeks after laying. For an instantly beautiful and healthy turf lawn please read the following advice:

GROUND PREPARATION

Proper ground preparation is essential for the establishment and future well being of your new lawn. Existing turf should be removed by slicing beneath the grass with a spade. For larger areas consider hiring a purpose built turf cutter. The soil should be turned over thoroughly to a depth of 15cm using a spade or powered cultivator to make sure that soil is aerated and primed for laying.

RAKING

Clear the area of stones, weeds, old turf and other debris. The ground should then be raked to produce a smooth, level surface. Lightly roll or tread the surface by foot to reveal any soft patches which can then be raked level. Continue this process until the whole area is level and evenly firm but not compacted. If conditions are dry, lightly water the soil before laying.

LAYING

Turf is a perishable product and it should ideally be laid on the same day it is delivered. In hot weather store unlaidd turf in the shade.

Never walk directly on the prepared soil or newly laid turf. Use boards or planks to work from and walk on.

Start by unrolling one strip of turf around the perimeter of the lawn, avoid using small pieces at the edges as these can dry out and perish. Ensure that the underside of the new turf has full contact with the soil below.

Lay the next strip along the longest straight run and continue to work across the lawn, strip by strip, producing a pattern similar to brickwork. Butt adjoining edges against each other but avoid stretching the turf.

Overlapping pieces and end of rolls should be cut off neatly with a sharp knife or half-moon edger.



WATERING

Water turf immediately after it has been laid. If laying during summer months, (March to October) or dry conditions, saturate the new turf and keep watering every day for several weeks or until roots are established into the soil below.

Water immediately and heavily if there are any signs of the turf drying out, i.e. gaps, lifting, browning or curling. As a rule the hotter, drier and windier the weather, the more water turf will need.

FEEDING

It is recommended to apply a balanced fertilizer containing similar levels of Nitrogen (N), Phosphate (P) and Potassium (K) every 4 to 6 weeks during the growing season. Follow the

manufacturers recommendations for quantity, timing and method of application.

MOWING

DO NOT cut your new lawn until the turf has rooted properly. You can check this by lifting up a corner to see if the roots have connected to the soil below.

For the first few times you mow set the lawnmower onto the highest setting to avoid 'stressing' the grass and remove no more than one third of the grass height with regular mowing.

Once established the height of cut can be gradually reduced. However, be careful not to 'scalp' the turf, an optimum growing height of 20mm to 35mm is recommended for the perfect lawn.

Laying turf at a glance

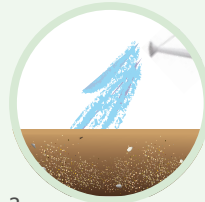
1. Lift and remove existing turf by slicing beneath it with a spade
2. Clear area of stones, weeds and debris and rake flat
3. Lightly water the soil before laying the new turf
4. Turf is perishable, lay it within 8 hours of delivery
5. Begin laying by unrolling one strip around the perimeter of the lawn, lay the next strip along the longest straight edge and continue until the ground is covered
6. Ensure full contact with the soil below
7. Water immediately, saturating the turf if laying it in summer or hot, dry conditions. Water everyday until roots are established
8. DO NOT mow your new lawn until properly rooted and set the mower at the highest setting for the first few mows



1.



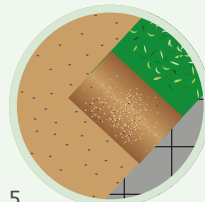
2.



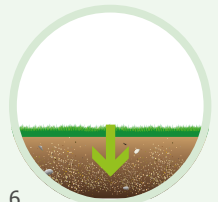
3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.

Seasonal care for your new lawn

Spring



Rake out dead moss and re-seed any bare patches. If a problem, dig out coarse grasses and fill holes with sifted soil and coarse sand (60/40) before seeding

Control weeds with a selected weed killer and apply a spring fertiliser (following manufacturer's recommendations)

Summer



During long dry spells increase your mowing height and water slowly and sparingly if necessary

Apply a summer fertiliser every 6 weeks

August is the last effective month for weed control

Autumn



Scarify, spike and top dress the lawn, then over-seed if necessary

Winter feed should be applied according to manufacturer's recommendations

If any signs of fungus attack such as fusarium, red thread or dollar spot apply fungicide at the manufacturer's recommended rate

Keep clearing leaves off the lawn

Winter



Keep off the lawn in very wet or frosty conditions

In milder conditions begin the lawn care season by spreading worm casts with a light brush when they are dry

Rake the lawn to remove leaves, dead grass etc but not too hard as this can damage the grass

