

Guide for Laying Your New Lawn



Laying cultivated turf will enable you to enjoy a fine lawn giving instant beautiful impact to your garden without the inconvenience, associated with seeding. To ensure that the turf you buy and lay is of the highest quality, always insist on lawn turf supplied by Cardiff Groundcare produced by our specialist grower who is a highly valued member of the Turfgrass Growers Association (TGA), which implements and maintains a quality assurance policy.

To achieve the best results we recommend that you follow the guidelines given below.

Remember that turf consists of closely planted living, breathing plants. Therefore giving appropriate care and attention to your new lawn will help it to grow and establish to its full potential giving you many years of enjoyment.

Ground Preparation



The correct methods of ground preparation are essential to produce the best results.

Existing turf should be removed or scraped up by slicing beneath the grass with a spade, sharp shovel or, for larger areas, consider hiring in a purpose-designed turf cutter. Your local tool hire shop will help with this. If unsure please contact us.



The soil needs to be rotovated over thoroughly to a depth of 6 inches or 15cm using a spade or a powered cultivator.

Clear the area of old turf, weeds stones, and other debris.

Raking



The ground should be raked to produce a level surface. Gently tread or roll the surface by foot to reveal any soft patches which will dip, then rake soil into the soft dipped areas so the area is level. Continue this process until the whole area is evenly firm and level. The surface should be firm under foot but not compacted. now Your area is ready for the turf to be laid upon.

Ordering



Measure the proposed lawn area accurately in square meters or square yards.

Our turf is harvested to each individual order; therefore we recommend that you give us as much notice as possible of the delivery date. Our turf is supplied in rolls for easy handling and laying.

At the time of ordering you will need to inform us of the amount of turf you require along with the delivery address, contact name, telephone number and required delivery date.

Please fill in all of the details asked for by the on-line ordering service or phone the office on 02920360639/07815646145 who will be more than happy to take your order.

Laying the turf



Do your best not to walk on the prepared soil or newly-laid lawn. If for some reason you have to walk on the soil, make sure you rake level any foot impressions left. Use boards or planks to walk on and work from. This will prevent dips developing in the lawn and also help gently pressing the turf onto the soil.

Begin by unrolling one strip of turf around the outside edge/perimeter of the lawn. Never use small pieces of turf at the edge as these can dry out and perish. Make sure that the underside of the new turf has full contact with the soil below to prevent roots drying.

Lay the next turf strip along the longest straight run and continue to work across the lawn, strip by strip keeping to a brick style so the joints do not match.



Butt up adjoining edges and ends tight against each other, but it is important to avoid stretching the turf. Overlapping pieces and ends of rows should be cut off neatly with a sharp or cerated knife or half-moon lawn edger.

Watering



Between the months of March and October, newly laid turf should be watered thoroughly within an hour of installation.

Repeat the watering at least once a day until the roots are well established. At least two hours per day of constant even watering is essential across the whole lawn area. The hotter, drier and windier the weather, the more water will be needed. Water immediately if there are any signs of the turf drying out such as gaps appearing because the turf is shrinking, lifting, browning and curling.

Feeding

A balanced fertiliser should contain an equal amount of Nitrogen (N), Phosphate (P) and Potash (K) and should be applied every four to six weeks during the growing season. Always follow the manufacturers' recommendations with regard to the timing, method and quantity of applications to help maintain your lawn in peak condition.

Mowing

Never mow your lawn until it has firmly rooted, this can be checked by lifting a corner of a strip of turf to see if the roots are attached to the soil below.

For the first cut, set the lawn mower height of cut to its highest setting to avoid damaging the grass. Mow regularly, each time cutting no more than a third of the grass height. Once the lawn is fully established, the height of the cut can be reduced to an height of between 15mm and 35mm. Take care to avoid scalping the turf.

The Turf must be laid as soon as possible, ideally within 24 hours of delivery. In hot weather, keep delivered turf in the shade. It is advisable to prepare the ground advance of the turf arriving to avoid hold-ups due to bad weather.