

New Sod Aftercare

Proper Watering

Your newly installed sod requires a lot more water than a regular, established lawn normally would. This is because the roots in the new sod need much more, consistent moisture.

You need to provide your sod with enough water to thoroughly soak the first few inches of soil for the first 7-10 days after laying the sod. This can be accomplished with about five to ten minutes of watering two to three times a day, depending on the weather.

During hot or windy conditions, you may need to water more. Following this time frame, you can decrease the amount you're watering the new sod to once a day while still ensuring that you're soaking top quarter inch of the soil. After about three weeks, you can begin watering every other day and after about a month you can begin watering as you would an established lawn.

Always make sure to water your new sod in the morning or evening to allow maximum moisture absorption! Grass will develop a blue-grey tinge if thirsty.

Fertilization Rules

You will most likely not need to fertilize your new sod as it was likely fertilized before it was harvested. Wait about a month for the sod to establish its roots into the soil of your lawn before applying a granular slow release fertilizer. Fertilize 2-4 times per year (May-August) waiting at least 4-6 weeks between applications.

Mowing Your New Sod

You should not mow your sod until it is a bit longer than you would generally allow your grass to grow, about 3.5-4 inches. Once it's grown to this length, avoid cutting it too short, and make sure that your mower's blades are sharp and set to cut your grass evenly.

Foot Traffic

Contact

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Try to avoid stepping on your newly lain sod for the first period after you've installed it, about a week to a week and a half. Even after about a month, you'll want to keep foot traffic light as the roots of your new sod will be newly established and can be affected by disturbances, such as too much weight being placed on them.