



INSTALLATION GUIDE

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STEP 1

All weeds need to be eliminated before the lawn is laid if you want a weed free lawn. It is much easier to do it at this stage than after the lawn is established. Depending on the type and amount of weed invasion, this can be done manually or by using a glyphosate weed killer at least a fortnight before.

STEP 2

The soil needs to be built up to lay the turf down onto. An organic sandy mix is ideal, but pure washed river sand can also be used. The normal depth of sand is about 50 mm, but if the soil is heavy clay, spread generous amounts of gypsum, and then add 100 mm of sand.

STEP 3

Next comes the crucial levelling stage. You will need a rake, which most people will have, and a leveller, which can be hired for the job. The thickness of turf is about 30mm, so when placed against paths or edges, the lawn has to sit just a little bit higher than the edge. It is best to take time at this job, because otherwise the end result will be a bumpy lawn.

STEP 4

Apply a pre-planting fertiliser. Apply a light application of a pre-emergent or dynamic lifter along with an insecticide to give the turf the best start. Spread it evenly over the area and it is ready to lay the turf.

STEP 5

It is very important to lay the turf as soon as it arrives, rather than letting it sit out in the sun any longer than necessary. Watering the rolls while they are still stacked will not help at all. Lay the turf along the paths and edges first so that there are no small pieces to dry out on the perimeter of the lawn. Press the ends and sides of each roll firmly against the adjoining one. The tighter the join, the quicker and better they will knit together. Note: Joins should be staggered, rather than finishing each roll in a continuous line across the lawn. Ends have a tendency to dry out because they become exposed much more easily, and smaller patches of dry will not be as obvious as one large continuous line.

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STEP 6

Water is essential to getting a lawn to establish quickly and maintain a good green colour. The water helps to settle the lawn in, trigger the fertiliser and helps the subsequent rolling to be more effective.

We recommend:

From installation -Week 2: Overhead watering for 10 minutes at 6am, 10am, 2pm and 4pm.

Week 3- 6: 20 minutes twice a day 6am and 6pm

Week 7-12: 30 minutes once a day at 6pm

Ongoing: Every three days for one hour.

This makes the lawn more drought tolerant. Your lawn is quite hardy, but it needs to be trained to send its roots deep. You can contact the Water Corporation for an exemption to normal watering for the establishment of new lawns.

STEP 7

The last step is to give it a good roll or whacker pack. You will need a roller that weighs about 45kgs to do the best job. The aim of this exercise is to firm down the turf, squeeze out any air pockets and ensure a good bond between the grass roots and the soil.

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MOWING

Do not attempt to mow your lawn before week 3. Before mowing test the grass to see if it can be lifted. If it can, then it hasn't had enough time to bond with the soil and mowing is likely to pull up the lawn and damage it. Wait until the roots have established in the soil below. The first mowing shouldn't be too short, just take the top off to encourage new foliage and root growth. Each subsequent mowing can be lower each time.

FERTILISING

Fertilising should be done four times a year (eg Jan, April, July, October). Using a combination of organic and synthetic fertiliser will give your lawn the boost it needs to stay healthy and choke out weeds.

If you are suffering from patches of "dead" lawn it is likely that there is a lawn grub in the soil. A regular application of an insecticide will keep these grubs at bay and help your lawn stay strong and healthy. You will need to check the manufacturers directions for application rates for your areas.

We also recommend aerating or coring your lawn once a year (before the wet is a good time) to prevent the lawn thatching and to allow the fertiliser to reach the roots.



Thank you for choosing Ord Valley Turf!

Please check out our Facebook page for useful tips and tricks on how to maintain your lawn.

Enjoy!