

Synthetic Grass Installation Guideline:

1. Measure and mark area where turf will be installed. Use an outdoor spray can to mark off the boundaries for your lawn. Consider installing concrete curbing for an edge or pavers before you install the turf, this edge make for a cleaner and easier installation. When planning the installation keep in mind that the synthetic turf comes in 15-foot widths. Plan your installation to have as few seams as possible with your layout.
2. Remove present grass and landscaping materials. Use shovels, sod puller (you can rent one) or have your local landscaper perform this task.
3. Remove sprinkler heads close off sprinkler system.
4. Compact ground under your synthetic turf. You need to fully firm up the ground that will be the foundation of your lawn. The best way is to use a vibrating plate compactor, which you can rent. You then will add on top of this soil a sub-base. (See 5-6 below)
5. Sub-Base. Install 2" to 4" layer of rock aggregate (no more than 1/4"). Your local nursery, rock yard or landscapers company can help you chose and will deliver this sub base. You should make this base firm and level. If your soil is unstable, you may need more than 4" of sub-base. If you are not sure, ask your local nursery, landscape supply, or landscaper.
6. Spread, level and compact this sub-base. Use the vibrating compactor to fully back this sub-base.
7. Check for surface imperfection. Fill and re-level sub-base hills or depressions that are over 1/4". Synthetic Grass drains water through drainage holes built into it, giving the base a very slight slope (1 or 2%) away from structures helps rain water to drain without pooling.
8. In an open area unroll your turf. Measure carefully the sizes you need, and cut as needed. Then piece by piece move the turf into position for final cutting in the area the turf is to be installed. Do not drag the turf, roll up and carry into position. Always lay the grass in one direction and never change the grain of the turf whether you are seaming or not.
9. Cut the grass to size. Always use a sharp razor blade or a quality utility knife, change blades regularly. To make the turf easier to handle, cut off larger pieces of excess turf that is unneeded. Position the turf where it needs to be and trim the edges roughly to within 2 to 3 inches of the final cut. Make small cuts every 6 to 8 inches to verify the final cut. It is better to cut the turf so that 1/4" is showing from the edge, than to have it touch the edge. Make your final cut.
10. Seam the grass. There are several ways to seam your turf. In dry, hot areas, nailing the seams together works good; using 3 3/4" galvanized nails every 6 or 8". You can use carpet tape or roofing tape, or you can use carpet glue and landscape fabric to seam the turf using a polypropylene landscape fabric (weed barrier cloth) cut into 6" strips, that hold the two turf edges together. Using a good glue, cut the seams so they touch each other but make sure that you do not overlap the turf. All supplies can be found at a local home supply center. This is not as hard of a task as you might expect (In certain climate such as the desert southwest, seaming can be done with nails as glue has been shown to break down from excess heat. This also allows for accessing below the grass if needed without cutting or removing seams). Because synthetic grass has a relatively high blade height, seams are much less noticeable especially after infill is installed and the turf is properly brushed. If this is your first install we suggest you try a few seams with excess turf you have. When nailing, slant the nails at an angle so that the nails pull the turf together. Remember to always have the turf run the same direction. (This means the blades of grass fall one direction, when seaming, make sure they point the same way).
11. Brush the grass before you infill. The grass will be matted down when it is first un-rolled, so it is best to use a gas powered sidewalk broom, to stand the grass up, before applying the infill. Once all the grass has been brushed, proceed to the infill step below.
12. Apply an infill if your turf calls for it. The best infill is 20 to 30 grit silica sand, this sand is screened and washed, it will never compact or get hard, like playground sand. Make sure you use a dust mask when handling this sand or brushing the grass after you spread the sand. Using a standard drop spreader (seed or fertilizer type, not the broadcasting type), apply the sand infill. The average infill amount is usually one to two pounds per square foot. The infill helps weigh the turf down and helps keep fibers upright and prevent matting. Infill can be sand, rubber or a combination of each. Most installers use sand infill. Cost is around \$3 for a 50-pound bag at your local home supply center. In spreading the sand, make one entire pass on the on the surface of your new lawn and then sweep the infill deeply into the fibers. Then repeat this process until all of the infill has been spread and fallen in between blades.
13. Water and Brush. Using a hose, water down the turf and brush with a stiff broom, a rack can also be used to get the turf to stand up by pushing the rack, instead of pulling. When the turf is standing up, and the infill is leveled out, YOU ARE DONE!
14. TOOLS NEEDED. Stiff bristle broom (preferably gas operated), razor knife with extra blades, flat shovel, large landscape rake, dust masks, garden hose, 3 1/2 to 4" galvanized nails, seam tape, adhesive (outdoor liquid nails or PL400), and hammer. You will need to rent a compactor and drop spreader.