

INSTALLING SOD



Prepare for Instant Gratification...

Sodding your lawn allows you to enjoy instant beauty and maturity without the time-consuming hassles of seeding. Purchasing sod also removes the risk of seed failure and saves you up to two years of developing a seeded lawn.

Your first decision will be whether you want to tackle this project yourself or hire a contractor.

Hiring a professional contractor makes your life much easier if you're planning on sodding a larger area because most contractors own the necessary equipment to grade larger areas and install the sod quickly. Contact Blue Grass for a recommended list of quality contractors.

If you're ready to dig in and tackle the job yourself, the following are basic steps to preparing and installing a beautiful lawn.

Four Easy Steps

- Soil Preparation
- Ordering
- Turf Installation
- Watering



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Step 1 Ordering

Measure the length and the width of the areas you wish to sod. Next, you can either call us and we will help you determine how much sod to order, or you can do the calculation yourself with the following formula: $l \times w = \text{sq feet}$

For Example:

20 ft. x 10 ft. = 200 square feet

Generally we use the term “square” when talking about sod orders. One square is 100 square feet. So if you need 200 square feet that is 2 square of sod.

Schedule your order for pick up (24 hours in advance) or delivery (minimum of 50 square) of sod when soil preparatory work is completed and you are ready to install.

Step 2 Soil Preparation

For best results, loosen the area with a rototiller or spade to a depth of 4” to 6”. Rake and smooth the soil, removing rocks, roots and large clods before installing sod.

Eliminate drainage problems by sloping the soil away from

foundations. Keep the grade 1” below sidewalks and driveways.

Have your lawn area soil tested and amend with recommended rates, or apply 13-13-13 fertilizer at the rate of 1 pound per 100 square feet immediately before or after the time of sodding.

Step 3 Turf Installation

Install your lawn immediately. Sod is a perishable product and **must** be laid within 24 hours of being harvested (the sooner the better). Prompt installation and watering ensures the best chance of success for your new lawn.

Begin watering within 15 minutes of installing the first piece of sod. Sod is a living plant that requires ground contact and moisture to survive.

Begin installing sod along the longest straight line, such as a driveway or sidewalk. Butt and push edges and ends against each other tightly, without stretching. Avoid gaps or overlaps. Stagger the joints in each row in a brick-like fashion, using a large sharp knife to trim corners, etc. Avoid leaving small strips at outer edge as they

will not retain moisture. On slopes, place sod across the slope to help avoid erosion. Stake the sod if the slope is steep.

To avoid causing indentations or air pockets refrain from repeated walking or kneeling on sod while it is being installed or just after watering. After installing the turf, roll the entire area to improve sod/soil contact and remove air pockets.

Step 4 Watering

Your new lawn requires watering within the first 15 minutes of installation. Water ¼” daily the first week, ¼” every other day the second week, and ¼” every three days the third and fourth week. For more details on watering and establishing your new lawn please refer to our website (www.bgsod.com).

