

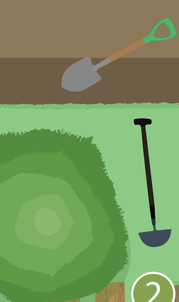
TURF LAYING GUIDE



Thinking of re-turfing your lawn? Not too sure where to start or what tools you need for the job? Well, here are a few tips to help you on your way to a luscious green lawn.

1 GROUND PREP

Preparing the ground before laying new turf is the key to a top quality lawn. Firstly, the existing turf should be removed using a spade and the soil should then be thoroughly turned to a depth of 15cm. The area should then be cleared of any debris, old turf, weeds and stones as these can cause later issues.



2 RAKING

To produce a smooth, even surface, raking should be carried out. Either rolling or lightly treading on the surface by foot will even out the soil. Carry out this process until the area is even. The ground should be firm but not compacted. It's time to lay the turf!



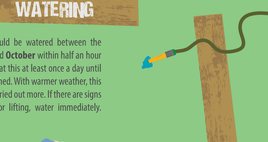
3 ORDERING

Measure the area that needs to be turfed in square meters or square yards. When the turf arrives (usually palletised), lay it as soon as possible. Ideally, this should be within 24 hours. If the temperature is very warm, unpack the turf from the pallet and lay as soon as you can.



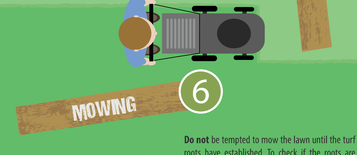
4 LAYING THE TURF

Do not walk on the newly prepared soil or turf after it has been laid. Instead, use wooden boards which will help spread the weight evenly. Start by unrolling turf around the perimeter of the lawn and then working your way inwards by placing the longest strips next to one another. Ensure the best possible contact between the turf and soil. Make sure to cut overlapping pieces with a sharp knife or half moon cutter for the neatest possible edges.



5 WATERING

Newly laid turf should be watered between the months of **March** and **October** within half an hour of it being laid. Repeat this at least once a day until the roots are established. With warmer weather, this process should be carried out more. If there are signs of browning, gaps or lifting, water immediately.



6 MOWING

Do not be tempted to mow the lawn until the turf roots have established. To check if the roots are established, lift a corner to see if the soil is attached. The first mow should be carried out with a **high blade setting** to avoid stressing the grass. No more than one third of the grass height should be taken off with each mow. After the roots are established, the mower height can be lowered gradually. Optimum height is between **15mm and 35mm**.

SOURCES

http://www.bbc.co.uk/gardening/basics/techniques/lawns_layingturf1.shtml

http://onlineturf.co.uk/turf-laying-guide.aspx

