

If you prefer to do the sod installation on your own, follow these great steps to help guide you through the process:

1. Measuring and Ordering

- Measure and sketch out the area you would like to cover with sod. Be sure to measure in square feet (ft2). After full preparation of the area schedule your order for pick up or delivery of sod. Prompt installation on the day you receive your sod is crucial to a strong beginning for your lawn.
- Measuring Calculator http://www.calculator.net/square-footage-calculator.html

2. Soil Preparation

- Remove any existing grass, weeds, and large rocks.
- o Fill in low spots, ruts and dips with topsoil.
- Level the area smooth with a hard rake removing any remaining rocks, roots, or large clods of soil.
- Keep the grade 1 inch below sidewalks or driveways.
- o Spread starter fertilizer and Lime on area to be sodded (optional).

3. Turf Installation

- Install your sod immediately upon its arrival.
- Sod requires ground contact and moisture to survive.
- Begin installing sod along the longest straight line, such as a driveway or sidewalk. Push edges and ends against each other tightly, without stretching.
- Avoid gaps and overlaps. Stagger the joints in each row in a brick-like fashion, using a spade shovel to trim the corners, etc.
- Avoid leaving small strips at outer edges as they will not retain moisture. On slopes, place the turf pieces across the slope.
- To avoid causing indentations or air pockets avoid repeated walking or kneeling on the turf while it is being installed or just after watering.

4. Watering

- Give your lawn at least 1 in. of water within 30 minutes of installation so that the soil underneath becomes very wet.
- Water daily, keeping turf moist until it is firmly rooted (about 2 weeks).

- Once grass is established you can water/soak the lawn at least once a week. The
 weather will determine how much watering is needed on occasion. During a
 drought be sure to water more frequently and less frequently during rainy weeks.
- Water areas near buildings more often where reflected heat dries the turf.

5. Maintenance

- When moving you need to generally remove no more than 1/3 of the grass height.
- Keep your mower blade sharp.
- Keep off the grass
- During the first couple of weeks after installation, keep traffic off your newly planted turf grass as much as possible.
- Your new turf grass needs to firmly knit with the soil.
- Any traffic on the new sod, when in watering stages, will create indentures and distort the new lawn

6. Fertilizer

- Apply fertilizers after the new grass has fully rooted.
- Fertilizer and chemical applications will depend on climate, soil, insects, weed and disease conditions.
- 7. Enjoy your new lawn!

*For more instructions on how to measure your yard for sod see the illustration on the following page

How to Measure Your Yard

Step 1: How to Measure Your Yard as Easy as 1-2-3! Easy mathematics can take a lot of the guess work out of measuring your turf area. Use any of the following formulas to meet your yard design or layout.

Circle

 $A = 3.14 \times r^2$

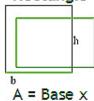
Example: Circle's radius (r) is 10 feet. Multiply the known 3.14 by the radius squared.

Thus:

 $A = 3.14 \times 10^{2}$ $A = 3.14 \times 100$

A = 314 square feet

Square & Rectangle



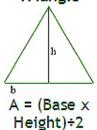
Example: Square or Rectangle's base is 10 feet, and the Square or Rectangle's height is 10 feet.

Thus:

 $A = 10 \times 10$

A = 100 square feet

Height Triangle



Example: Triangle's base is 10 feet and the height (base to point) is 20 feet.

Thus:

 $A = (10 \times 20) \div 2$

 $A = 200 \div 2$

A = 100 square feet

Combination

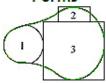
Free-Form



Break the free-form area down to obvious forms and calculate each form's area. Once each form is calculated, add the areas together to derive the total area.

Breakdown to

Forms



Example:

- Circle A = 3.14 x r²
- 2. Rectangle A = b x h
- Square A = b x h

(As a rule it is wise to add an additional 10% to cover estimation and measuring error for a free form lawn)