

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS (Landscape)

### Ground Preparation

1. Clear any existing grass or vegetation in the desired area. (A few tools may help with this; sod cutter, hoe, or shovel.) A sod cutter will get the job done best!
2. It is a good idea to use weed killer on the cleared area and/ or a grass blocker spray. This will help inhibit grass or weeds from growing through your synthetic grass (Always use these products according to the manufacturers' recommendations).
3. Once all of the vegetation is cleared, you are ready to compact and smooth out the exposed soil (keep in mind, existing base should slope away from any house or structure). Use a gas powered plate compactor to smooth out soil. For smaller areas, a squared plate hand tamp will be adequate (both gas powered and plate compactors may be rented from local tool supplier). Compaction is necessary to keep all materials from shifting over time.
4. Once you have smoothed and flattened the soil, you are ready to apply the crushed stone base.
5. We suggest that you have a 3"-4" layer of ¼" minus crushed stone (same as crushed stone under brick and stone pavers). This can be purchased through a local home improvement store, local quarry or mulch dealer. Do not use pre washed stone as it will not compact as well as unwashed aggregate.
6. Apply the crushed stone and spreading to 3"-4" thickness. Use heavy duty yard rake or for large areas tractor/ bobcat rental may be required.
7. If using a nailer board around perimeter of lawn, install nailer board before final compaction. The nailer board could be a 2x4 pressure treated wood or similar composite decking material (flexible) that will be in a trench around the perimeter of the lawn. This will make final installation much easier. Have nailer board flush to level of crushed stone. Once turf is laid, staple the turf to the nailer board every 6"-12". This will secure the turf and move the installation along. Always follow instructions on staple gun! Be sure not to pin turf down when stapling.
  - a. If nailer board is not used, follow instructions for staking turf down with 6" galvanized nails (Next Day instructions; step # 25)
8. Lightly spray with garden hose (this will make compacting easier).
9. Now it's time to compact the crushed stone with your plate compactor or hand tamp.

10. Start in the center of the area until you feel comfortable maneuvering equipment. More stone may be needed to fill in low spots of your lawn or designated area. Take your time at this step because a smooth flat surface will determine how well the turf looks once installed (you cannot expect a great lawn without a well constructed base).

### **Constructing your Turf** (The toughest part is done!)

1. The best conditions for installation are the following:
  - Temperatures over 55 degrees Fahrenheit
  - Dry (if wet from rain, wait at least 24 hours)
  - Sunny days (helps enhance flexibility of material and proper drying of adhesive)
2. Carefully use scissors to cut open plastic from rolls. Move plastic to the side and away from installation area.
3. At this time, roll out all turf rolls to lay flat in crushed stone base (note; you may need one or two other persons to help with this step).
4. Let material relax before the seaming process. If no seams are necessary, skip ahead to (Next Day instructions step # 25). At this time, you may trim off one tufted row of salvage edge from each side (use a **new blade** in utility knife or carpet tool to make cuts).
5. Excess or scrap can now be discarded or put to the side.
6. Before seaming, make sure when joined together, all pieces of turf cover entire area.
7. If using multiple rolls, be sure grass fibers are running in the same direction. Pile direction is optional on whether leaning towards or away from house or structure.
8. Lay the turf in the desired area with any joining rolls side by side. It may be necessary to trim one roll to the other at this time to make sure rolls are flush to one another.
9. Before gluing seams, it is necessary to rough cut (leaving 3"-4") for final cutting process, meaning to cut off any excess that would keep the material from laying flat (seams cannot be glued if not laid flat).
10. At the end of the rolls where seaming occurs final trim turf approximately 1' on each side of seam.
11. Fold back turf on each side at least 18" to expose crushed stone base below.
12. At this time, roll out seaming tape over the crushed stone, halfway between the two rolls. Then fold back one side of turf to make sure seaming tape is centered.
13. Drive one nail in on each side of seaming tape (this will keep the seaming tape from shifting).
14. Be sure seaming tape is clear of all debris.

15. Apply adhesive (Nordot 34G, 3M 1099 Rubber and Gasket Adhesive, or strong outdoor carpet adhesive) to seaming tape using a notched trowel (1/8" notched trowel; spreads adhesive evenly on seam). Leave approximately 1/2" on edges of tape unglued (this will ensure the adhesive does not bond to sub base material).
16. Once spreading of adhesive is completed, carefully close the seam (two people are required for this step).
17. Note that one side of turf fibers will be leaning away from the seam and the other side of turf fibers will be leaning in towards the seam. This is important because one side must lay before the other so no adhesive sticks to fibers and seam is clean.
18. Carefully install side leaning away from seam "first".
19. Next set second half into the adhesive. This will be the side where the fibers overhang the edge.
20. At this point, a water filled roller can be used to compress seams and spread glue evenly. If roller is not used, walk along each side of seam to properly get contact of turf to the adhesive.
  - a. It is not a bad idea to drive your landscape pins/ nails along each side of the seam (zigzag along seam). This will ensure a tight seam and help pin the turf to the ground.
21. Read instructions on adhesive for drying time (Always follow manufacturers' recommendations).
22. Weighted items (bricks/ wood boards, nothing that could rust on the turf) may be used on seams to ensure bonding of materials. Leave weights on seams for at least 24 hours.

## **NEXT DAY**

23. Remove weights from seams.
24. Take flexible yard rake and brush out seams (this will bring fibers back up). Brush against the grain. For larger jobs, use a power broom (may be found at a local landscape supply or tool rental shop).
25. Trim final excess around perimeter. Use 6" thin galvanized spikes (found at local home improvement store) to nail in every 12-18" around perimeter. More spikes may be used or required for high foot traffic applications. Drive spikes approximately 1/2" from edge of turf.
  - a. If using a nailer board refer to directions at step #7. (Skip ahead to step #27).

26. Be sure when driving spikes, they are in between stitch rows and do not pin the turf down. To accomplish this, simply brush away fibers while nailing.
27. Where meeting existing areas bring turf heights flush to any landscaping or curbing. (Shape your turf the way you would like, get creative!) Hint: the stitch in the backing will help guide you. Cut as close as possible to the stitch, but do not cut the stitch itself. This will also help hide the seams. Cutting on the stitch will result in the turf fibers coming off.

### **Final Steps (You are almost finished!)**

1. Now it is time to brush up the turf. Use a power broom, stiff brush, or flexible metal rake to comb up the grass fibers. Now the turf is ready for the infill (sand or granulated rubber).
2. Use a drop spreader (a rotary spreader will disperse infill “everywhere”) to apply infill evenly (see style for recommended infill requirement). Do not dump any quantities of sand/ granulated rubber into any one area. This will make it harder to disperse throughout your synthetic grass. If infill is spilled in a pile, use a gasoline or electric blower to disperse material.
3. After each application of sand/ granulated rubber, use the power broom, brush, or rake to work the infill into the lawn, always brushing against the grain. The infill will settle to the bottom of the grass fibers, causing the fibers to stand up. Infill will also help weigh the turf down. More or less infill can be applied depending on the foot traffic and application (i.e. rooftops should not have infill).
4. Remember to brush fibers after each round of infill is applied on lawn. Again, brushing against the grain.
5. Double check to assuring infill is spread evenly throughout the lawn. If infill is heavy in any given area, use leaf blower to disperse infill (this is the best means of moving infill material around).
6. You have now completed your turf installation.

### **Note:**

Cutting around trees, rocks, and other structures:

- Seams should be made at shortest distance between cut around (trees, rocks, structures, etc.) and perimeter’s edge.

- Cut turf around trees and shrubs as to have material lying flat (this will also give room for the vegetation to receive proper watering and not suffocating roots).
- Any natural landscaping next to the synthetic grass will only enhance the curb appearance.

**Most synthetic grass owners have installed their own lawn. This only has to be done once and then you have a low maintenance lawn for years to come!**