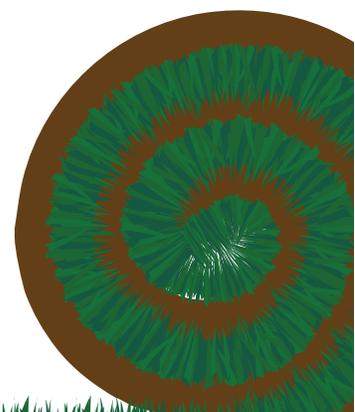




SOD INSTALLATION & CARE GUIDE



WHAT TYPE OF SOD DO I NEED?

BERMUDA: Bermuda needs at least 8 hours of sun per day and can be planted year-round. It is an aggressive, fast spreading, warm-season turf. Bermuda is the most commonly used grass in Oklahoma.

ZOYSIA: Zoysia needs at least five hours of sun per day and can be planted March 15th to Nov. 1st. It is a warm-season turf that spreads very slowly. If planting where Bermuda is thick, spray Round-Up prior to installation.

FESCUE: Fescue needs at least two to three hours of sun per day. It is a cool-season turf that tolerates shaded areas. It is recommended to be installed in the fall. However, it can be installed in the spring, but over-seeding will be necessary in the fall. If the installation area has been shaded for many years, a soil test is recommended or an application per 1000 sq. feet. This process should be repeated biannually.

ESTABLISHING YOUR LAWN

MEASURING FOR SQUARE FOOTAGE: If the area you want to sod is a basic rectangle, you simply measure the length and the width. Then multiply to come up with the total SF. If the area does not have a simple rectangular layout, divide it into smaller sections, and add the SF of each. If you need assistance, an associate from one of our sod sales locations would be happy to assist you.

SOIL PREPARATION: Till your soil to a depth of 2 to 3 inches before sod installation. Apply a slight watering before sod installation when temperatures exceed 80 degrees. It is a good idea to have your soil tested for nutrient deficiencies and proper pH factor. You can take a soil sample to your local County Extension office.

INSTALLATION: First, place a border around the area you wish to sod; this will help with overall appearance. Second, lay sod inside the border and cut excess sod with a shovel. Optional: To further improve the appearance and root contact, compact the sod with a small yard roller. (Rollers can be found at your local rental store.) Rolling is not crucial to survival, but will help the overall appearance.

NOTE: DO NOT ROLL FESCUE SOD.

WATERING: The most important step in establishing a new lawn is watering. The first watering should be applied until the sod is “mushy”, which is approximately a half-inch of water, or 10 minutes, depending on your soil and type of water delivery system. Watering conditions are as follows:

Spring and Fall – Once a day for 10 days, skipping a day in the middle.

Summer – Twice a day for 10 days.

Winter – First watering after installation, then every other day for a week.

FERTILIZATION: A starter fertilizer can be used but is not necessary. After approximately one month, a heavier application may be used. Follow up yearly to improve the overall health of your lawn so that it is better able to withstand weeds, wear, heat, cold and drought. Fertilization programs vary, so you may want to contact your local county extension office.

WEEDS: Our sod is mostly weed free due to our timely weed care and spraying plan. However, weeds will develop in your yard after the sod is installed due to seeds being blown in, or from seeds that may already be in the soil. Like any yard, it is recommended to spray your yard for weeds as needed or schedule a lawn maintenance program. The most important weed-control for any yard, is a pre-emergent application in late January.

INSECT CONTROL: The most common insect problem is white grubs. These can be controlled by applying an insecticide in early August.

SPECIAL APPLICATIONS

SUMMER INSTALLATION: Sod installed when the temperature exceeds 90 degrees will likely go into shock. This will cause the sod to turn a light green or tan color. Water the sod as stated above and the green color will return to the leaves in 7 to 14 days.

WINTER INSTALLATION: Bermuda and Zoysia installed after Sept. 1st should be watered throughout the winter. Watering once every two weeks will help prevent winter-kill, When the temperature drops below 25 degrees and there has not been any moisture in the last 2 days, water sod until moist. This will help to insulate the roots from freezing.

LAWN MAINTENANCE

WATERING: Water your lawn heavy and infrequent, (12 to 15 minutes, 2 to 3 times a week). This will help establish a deep root system. Frequent, but light, watering causes shallow root growth.

MOWING: You can mow your new sod as soon as it is rooted. You should raise the level of your mower at least one notch the first time. Suggested mowing heights are as follows: Bermuda 1.0-1.5 inches, Zoysia 1.0-1.5 inches, Fescue 2.5-3.00 inches. In early spring, be sure to scalp your Zoysia/Bermuda yard.

AERATION: Aerating your lawn once or twice during the growing season will keep your Bermuda and Zoysia dense.

DO NOT AERATE FESCUE.

OVER-SEEDING: To achieve a green lawn year round, perennial rye grass can be applied in late September to Bermuda and Zoysia grass at a rate of 10 to 15 pounds per 1,000 sq. feet. Be sure to scalp your yard in early March to ensure good post-dormancy Bermuda and Zoysia grass growth. Fescue can also be over-seeded in the fall with fescue seed, to keep it dense. Apply at a rate of 3 to 4 pounds per 1,000 sq. feet.

Sod Partners DBA

THE SOD STORE

PO Box 9866
Fayetteville, AR 72703
123 S Maestri Rd
Springdale, AR 72762