

The Synthetic Turf Depot Installation Manual was created to save you time and money by offering you cutting-edge installation techniques and up-to-date maintenance tips.

There are four separate areas of the synthetic turf installation you should consider:

- 1 Installation Planning
- 2 Base Preparation
- 3 Synthetic Installation
- 4 Care & Maintenance

We will cover each of these step-by-step. Remember you can call us at any time at 972.763.5555 and we will help you with your specific installation and estimating questions. Now, let's get started!

1 Installation Planning – Measuring Your Area

You will need the following tools for your installation:

Sod Cutter



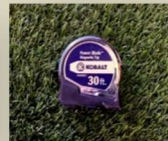
Shovel



Wheelbarrow



Measuring Tape



Chalk Line



Plate Compactor



Water Roller



Trowel



Carpet Cutter



Utility Knife



Utility Scissors



Seaming Tape



Carpet Kicker



Hammer



Galvanized Fasteners



Landscape Rake



Spreader



Push Broom



When measuring your project, keep in mind the synthetic turf comes in rolls that are 15-feet wide and up to 100-feet long. The turf can be seamed together to make an area the size you need. Measure to have the least amount of seams, if possible. Also, make sure to measure the deepest part of an area. Allow extra material where you will be cutting around any trees, bushes, or utilities (i.e., a/c units, etc.) Always measure twice, cut once! Use our Estimating Guide <http://stdepot.com/how-to-order> to ensure an accurate estimation or give us a call and we will walk through your measurements with you.

Quick Note: Synthetic turf looks like a big roll of carpet, and can get heavy out in the field. To determine the weight of the turf, take the total square footage of your roll and divide it in half. For example: 450 square feet will weigh approximately 225 pounds.



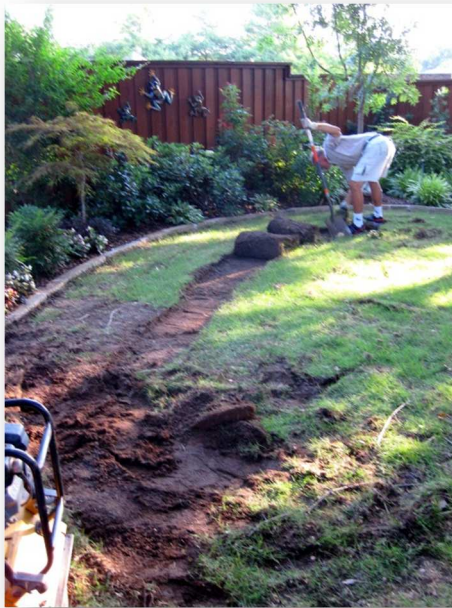


Depot Design Tip

You can use different edging or bordering options that can enhance the appearance of your synthetic turf installation. Edging should be completed before installation. Curbing, decorative rock, and colored mulch are a few suggestions that look great!

2 Base Preparation

You first need to remove the existing vegetation surface with a sod cutter or shovel. The typical depth to remove is 2 to 3 inches, but in colder climates you may want to remove 4 inches because of the expansion and contraction of the ground. Use caution around trees and bushes. After removal, you will use a landscape rake and set a rough grade, and lightly compact or water roll the area. It is also a good idea to treat the area with a grass and weed killer.



Depot Design Tip

If your area has clay-like soil that is too wet or dry, we recommend using a landscape fabric to separate the natural soil from your base material. We recommend a 2-oz. non-woven fabric. This will ensure the surface of your synthetic grass will stay smooth after installation.

Base Materials

The base material is meant for drainage under the synthetic turf system and provides a solid surface to walk on. The base you choose should allow the turf to drain up to 8 inches of water per hour. You will want to avoid using a round rock, like pea gravel or sand because they will not compact very well and will shift when walked on.

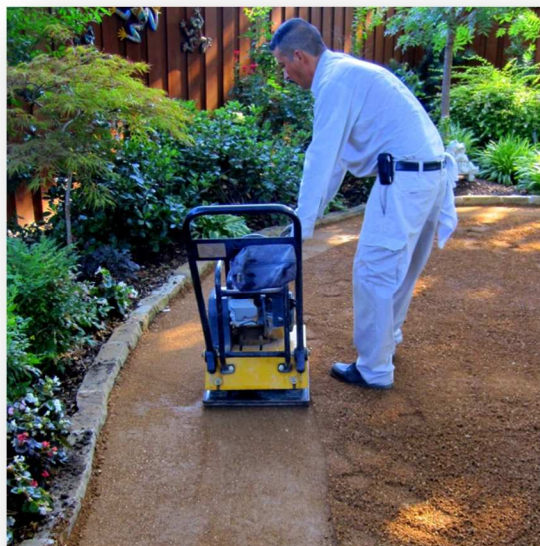
Here is a list for commonly-used base rock material:

- crushed stone
- decomposed granite (DG)
- crushed fine gravel
- chat
- crushed limestone
- clean road base/aggregate
- breeze rock

To figure how much base material you need divide your area square footage by 324 and x depth = square yards. Example: 600 square feet divided by 324 x 2-inch depth is 3.7 yards. Or, if measuring in tons, figure 1 ton of sub-base material for every 100 square feet for a 2-inch base.

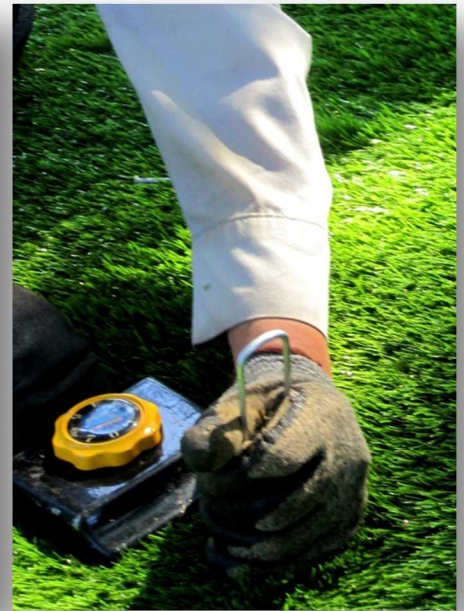


You will want to check for any sprinkler heads and decide if you want to cap them under the turf, or adjust them through the turf. (The sprinklers will work on top of the synthetic turf just like they do on the natural grass.) Then install the sub-base material and spread it out over the area. Use a plate compactor or water roller to compact the sub-base. You want to have the base as smooth as possible, but solid when you walk on it.



3 Synthetic Turf Installation

You should unroll your turf and let it sit in the sun for a couple of hours if possible. This allows the grass fibers to stand up and relax from being rolled up and lets the backing smooth out. Place the synthetic turf over the prepared base (try not to drag it across your base work). You will want to cut off the un-tufted edge (selvedge) on both sides of your turf and lay the synthetic turf in the direction intended. Then lay your next piece of turf next to the first one, making sure both pieces face the same direction, and so on. Next you want to secure your seams. To achieve this, the two pieces of turf cannot touch; 1/8 inch gap is acceptable. The grass seams should be equal distance apart as the tufted rows. You should then secure all seams with mechanical fasteners or turf glue and seaming tape. You can talk with a Depot Installation Expert for more details about seaming. Now, with seams complete, you can continue cutting in the edges around your borders.



Depot Design Tip



When cutting the turf around borders, flower beds, and walkways, you want to cut the turf on the back side.

3 Synthetic Turf Installation

After the borders are trimmed to fit, you are ready to secure the turf. Use a 6-inch galvanized staple every six inches around the entire perimeter.



Depot Design Tip

Don't let grass blades get tangled under the staple, and do not over tighten, as this will cause dimples at every staple.

4 Infill Material

Although some turf is considered to be a non-infill product, Synthetic Turf Depot recommends using infill on all installations. The infill adds ballast, protects the backing, and helps the grass blades recover from any activity. There are several options for infill materials, please consult your Depot Installation Expert for proper infill solutions. We normally recommend 2 pounds per square foot of infill. The infill is applied by a drop spreader. Slowly allow the infill to cover the surface of the synthetic turf. More than one pass is sometimes needed. After infill is applied, you will use a push broom or power broom to work the infill into the turf. This will also make the turf stand up better. As a finishing touch, use a leaf blower, broom or plastic rake to clean up the area.



Recap of the Installation Process

1. First remove the existing surface of area you want to lay the synthetic turf.
2. Using a landscape rake, smooth out area and set grade.
3. Cap or adjust any sprinklers in the area.
4. Lay a 2 oz. fabric in area, cut to fit.
5. Next, bring in your basework, smooth out and compact.
6. Now install the synthetic turf, cut to fit around flower beds, trees, etc.
7. Secure all seams and perimeter with mechanical fasteners.
8. Using a spreader, spread 2 pounds per square foot of infill on top of the turf.
9. You then “broom” in the infill to allow it to drop to the base of the blades.
10. Use a leaf blower to clean away any debris

You now have a beautiful, year-around usable outdoor space!

!! CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR INSTALLATION !!





SYNTHETIC TURF CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- Keep your Synthetic Grass free of dirt and debris. Use a leaf blower or rake.
- Pets are allowed on the Synthetic Grass, it is very pet friendly. Solid waste should be removed regularly - as it would on natural sod. Liquid waste should be rinsed off periodically to keep the grass free from residue.
- The Synthetic Grass should be occasionally groomed with a stiff bristled push broom or plastic grass rake. This will keep the grass looking and acting like new. Areas of heavy traffic may require more attention than other areas.
- Sunflower seeds, chewing gum, tobacco products or other foreign substances should NOT be used on, or dropped on the grass. If such products get on the grass surface, they should be removed immediately. Fireworks, sparklers and other flammable items can damage the grass. These should not be used or set off on the grass surface.
- Spills of foreign substances should be removed as quickly as possible, using a mild household cleaning solution. We recommend Simple Green.
- Use of equipment (other than a broom, plastic rake, leaf blower or water hose) such as outdoor vacuum sweepers, heaters or snow blowers shall be at the risk of the user. Synthetic Turf Depot is not responsible for damage caused by such equipment.
- Motorized vehicles of any kind should not be permitted on the synthetic grass surface. If a vehicle must travel on the turf, extreme caution should be taken in starting, stopping and turning. The surface should be properly protected from sharp or pointed edges of any objects or equipment placed on the grass. Standard protective mats are recommended for this purpose.
- **Odors:** You can rinse your Synthetic Grass occasionally, or if you want to clean your entire lawn, consider investing in a Dial 'N Spray hose end sprayer that can be attached to your water hose. A Dial 'N Spray will allow for rapid cleaning of your entire lawn. Simple Green cleaner or distilled vinegar are good cleaning agent choices. You can also purchase an enzyme cleaner for lingering pet odors.
- **Lawn Furniture & Accessories:** Children's swimming pools and lawn furniture left on your Synthetic Grass for a sustained period of time will flatten your turf. Once you remove whatever has flattened your turf, simply rake your Synthetic Grass "against the grain" to get it to stand up again.