



How to care for new sod

Careful treatment and daily care are critical to your new lawn.

It is very important to maintain your newly laid sod correctly for a successful and healthy root establishment. During the first 3-4 weeks (particularly during hot season) the sod should be thoroughly watered daily. If you don't keep it well watered you will end up with yellowing, wilting, and dead spots. Daily watering is imperative to the health of the sod.

Please be sure to follow the instructions daily.

1. Day 1 – **soak the sod thoroughly**. Lift the corners to be sure that the sod is soaked all the way through to the soil beneath.
2. Days 2-30 – continue to water **making sure that the sod is soaked through to the bottom but not squishy or puddling which would indicate overwatering**. **The best time to water is in the early morning which gives the grass blades and soil time to dry out during the day.**
3. In approximately 10 days you should begin to mow the lawn. The grass blades are typically 3-4 inches long and roots usually begin to establish themselves between day 10-21 (try lifting the corner and if the sod is tightly adhered to the soil, your roots are established). If the sod is not well adhered, keep your lawn mower blade speed low so that the mower does not pull up the sod into the blades.
4. Once the roots are well established (approx. 3-4 weeks) you can go to lighter watering but watch the sod, if you start getting dry, yellowing patches, etc., you are not watering enough, the sod is stressed and must be more thoroughly watered.
5. You can test your new lawn with every other day watering and see how it reacts. If you don't see signs of stress, you can continue with less watering or your normal sprinkler system settings. Once Fall temperatures reduce into 60-70 degrees and the days are shorter, less watering will be required.

Once your sod is installed, the real success is in your hands. Please be sure to follow the steps above and enjoy your new lawn.