

# THE FIVE STEPS TO PERFORMING A SOD INSTALLATION

## STEP 1 - ASSESSING & MEASURING OF THE SITE

The first step in establishing new sod is to assess the existing site and design a plan for proper planting. Some sites may have existing vegetation, debris, or other items in place that need removal.

It is also important to inspect the perimeter of the site to see if there are obstructions in place that may prevent adequate sunlight, water, or even maintenance equipment from reaching the lawn. If potential obstructions or debris exist, it is best to remove them prior to preparing the soil for sodding.

Next is to take initial measurements of the lawn so that you can estimate the budget, purchase the correct amount of sod, determine what type of tillage or other equipment can access the site, and design irrigation plans if needed. Measure the area you'll be sodding. Take careful measurements so that you don't pay for more sod than you need. Order roughly 5 percent extra (over the measured area), so you'll have enough sod to cut and fit around curves.

Please visit our website <a href="https://korbysod.com/resources/">https://korbysod.com/resources/</a> - <a href="DIY-GUIDE ON MEASURING FOR TURFGRASS SOD">DIY-GUIDE ON MEASURING FOR TURFGRASS SOD</a>.

#### STEP 2 - REMOVAL OF EXISTING LAWN (IF NEEDED)

If you are replacing an existing lawn or have a hearty overgrown weed problem, you first must remove the old sod or growth. This can be done either by killing the existing vegetation with an herbicide, waiting for the area to die, then rototilling the area. Or you can remove the existing lawn with a sod cutter.

Please visit our website - DIY - HOW TO REMOVE OLD SOD & VEGETATION.

#### **STEP 3 - SOIL PREPARATION**

Proper soil preparation is an essential step in ensuring long-term success of newly established lawns. Our soils are high in clay and are easily compacted. It is vital to new sod root growth to loosen the soil and add soil amendments containing organic matter, potting soil, or other amended topsoils.

Grass roots will grow 1 to 4 feet, depending on the turfgrass variety. The deeper the root grows, the stronger, healthy and more drought tolerant your lawn will become.

Please visit our website - <u>DIY - HOW TO PREPARE YOUR SOIL FOR SOD INSTALLATION</u>.

#### STEP 4 - INSTALLING THE SOD ROLLS

Start laying sod rolls. Lay rolls end to end, staggering the joints like bricks and keep seams tight. Avoid walking on the new sod rolls for at least a couple of weeks.

Please visit our website - <u>DIY - HOW TO INSTALL SOD ROLLS</u>.

### STEP 5 - WATERING AND AFTERCARE FOR NEW SOD

**IMMEDIATELY AFTER INSTALLATION -** You will want to water for 30 to 60 minutes to soak your new lawn and the underlying soil. Do not wait! The dry soil will "wick" moisture out of the rolls and cause browning.

**FOR WEEKS 1 & 2 -** Water twice per day. It is recommended to water a minimum of 20 minutes per time of day, per zone.

**FOR WEEK 3 & 4 -** Reduce watering to once per day in the morning. Maintain the minimum of 20 minutes per day.

The best time to water is early in the morning and late in the evening. Avoid watering during the heat of the day.

Do not mow for the first 3 weeks. For the first three mowings, cut at the highest setting on your mower. Lower each subsequent mow - training your grass to be cut shorter. Never cut more than 1/3 of the grass blades with any one cutting.

As with all lawns, a fertilization program will encourage establishing and maintaining thicker and healthier lawn. It is recommended four times per year. As part of creating a healthy lawn it is also suggested to apply routine weed control application to minimize unwanted and competing plants.

Please visit our website - DIY - WATERING NEW SOD & AFTERCARE.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO MONITOR YOUR NEW SOD DAILY
CONTACT US IMMEDIATELY IF THERE ARE
SIGNS OF STRESS OR IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS

(970) 568-7633 or (720) 262-3818

MOST ISSUES CAN BE CORRECTED WHEN ADDRESSED EARLY!