

LAWN

Installation & Care Guide

- How to Install Your Sod
- Watering & Mowing Guides
- Troubleshooting Guide

PRE-INSTALLATION CHECKLIST

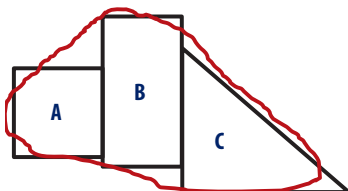
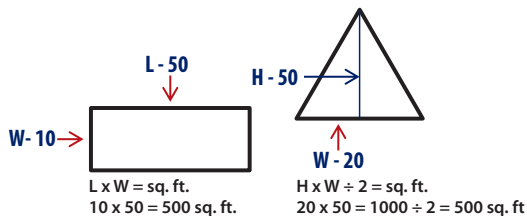
- ✓ Plan irrigation — below ground is recommended
- ✓ Inventory the necessary tools
- ✓ Rent a roller
- ✓ Complete soil and site preparation prior to delivery

Installing your lawn



Step 1 Measure the Lawn Area

Sketch and measure the area of the lawn, example, below.



Example of Surface Area

Area A is 10 ft. x 10 ft.	= 100 sq. ft.
Area B is 15 ft. x 20 ft.	= 300 sq. ft.
Area C is a triangle 12 ft. x 20 ÷ 2	= 120 sq. ft.
TOTAL SOD NEEDED	= 520 sq. ft.

Common Errors

Read this section before beginning installation

Covering sod. Do not cover sod with plastic, shade cloth, burlap, etc. It may burn.

Preparing and installing the same day. Prepare two days in advance to identify uneven areas.

Not using a roller. You will need it twice for adequate contact.

Not pre-irrigating. Water the area the night before installation. Dry soil under new sod robs the roots of moisture.

Not watering as you install. Lightly water after every ten pieces. New sod cannot be allowed to dry out; even for a short time.

Inadequate irrigation system. Hand watering will not suffice. Spray patterns must overlap and reach all areas. Timers are recommended.

Delayed mowing. Mow lightly the first time on day 14.

Scalping. Never remove more than 1/3 of blade length. Check the mowing heights in this guide for your variety.

Premature fertilization. Do not feed until one month after installation.

Applying fungicide. Effective application requires a dry surface. New lawns will not tolerate this condition. Apply Scotts® DiseaseEx™ Lawn Fungicide to cover a wide range of problem lawn diseases.

ADVICE FROM THE NATION'S #1 LAWN EXPERTS





Step 2 Soil Preparation

Rototill or spade to a depth of 4 to 6 inches. Remove sticks, stones, roots, debris and large clods. Incorporate 1-2 inches of **Scotts® Turf Builder® LawnSoil™** and rake into the soil.



Step 3 Grading

Work, level, and smooth the area with a rake. Make sure the grade is 1/2 inch below driveways, walkways, and borders; and 1 inch below sprinkler heads. Roll the area with a lawn roller 1/3 full of water. Fill in low areas with more **Scotts® Turf Builder® LawnSoil™**, and roll again. This important step provides an even firm surface. Pre-irrigate the surface the evening before installation. It is essential that sod is not installed on a dry surface.



Step 4 Turf Installation

Install your **Harmony™ SOD** immediately upon delivery. Begin installation along a straight line; a driveway or sidewalk. Butt edges together tightly, avoiding overlap or gaps. Stagger the joints in each row in a brick-like fashion as in the illustration below. Use a sharp knife to trim corners, around trees, sprinklers, etc.



Hint: Never let newly installed sod dry out. Water lightly as small



Step 5 Water and Roll

When installation is complete, water the entire lawn for 10 minutes. Using a roller 1/3 full of water, roll the entire area to ensure complete contact with the soil. To prevent indentations or air pockets, avoid repeated walking or kneeling on newly installed **Harmony™ SOD**.



Step 6 Feeding

Feeding is important for all lawns, but it's especially important for new grass to keep your new grass growing and maintain a thick, green appearance. Feeding can/should take place immediately after planting and provide a follow-up feeding in 4-6 weeks with **Scotts® Turf Builder® Starter® Food for New Grass**. Once your new **Harmony™ SOD** is established, continue with regular feedings with **Scotts® Turf Builder® Lawn Food** every 6-8 weeks. For more information on **Scotts®** products visit scotts.com

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Maintain a Beautiful Lawn

Groom a gorgeous lawn and become the envy of the neighborhood

Remember: A lawn is a living, growing field made up of individual grass plants. Tend your grass like you would a tomato plant or petunias.

Lawn Food Frequency

Feeding your lawn every 6 to 8 weeks gives grass plants the nutrients they need for deep roots

and strong, full blades. Regular feedings provide the nutrients the lawn needs to look its best and withstand the stresses of weeds, heat, drought and family activity.

Bare Spot Repair and Lawn Thickening

Bare spots in the lawn are easy to repair using **Scotts™ EZ Seed™**. Repairing bare spots not only makes your lawn lush and more enjoyable, it also helps prevent bigger problems, like weed invasions, from happening later. With each passing year, the wear

and tear on your lawn can cause it to become thin and weak even with regular feedings. Thin, weak grass is also an invitation for weeds. Overseeding using **Scotts® Turf Builder® Thick'R Lawn™** is a quick, inexpensive way to help return worn-out, tired grass to its former lush, green glory.



Download the **Scotts' My Lawn App** to simplify lawn care with a personalized, easy-to-follow lawn maintenance plan created just for you. It lets you know the right products to use at the right time for a lush, green lawn.

Watering



Watering Guide for Your New Lawn

Water requirements can vary for locales with greater precipitation. The guidelines below are for warm weather and/or drier climates. Proper watering of sod is essential for root establishment. Enough water should be applied to penetrate the sod and two inches of native soil. Soil should remain evenly moist for the first two weeks for rooting to occur.

First 14 days

- 60-70°F 8 am, 1 pm, for 15 minutes
- 70-90°F 6 am, 12 pm, 3 pm for 20-25 minutes
- 90°F + 6 am, 10 am, 2 pm, 4 pm for 20-25 minutes
- If run off is excessive or sod is soggy, reduce the length of time; not the frequency.

After 14 days

- 6 am daily for 20-25 minutes. Shaded areas may require less water.

After 30 days

- 10 am 2-3 times weekly for 30 minutes. Shaded areas may require less water.

Helpful hints

- Do not water lawns of any age at night; it may promote disease.
- During periods of extreme heat or dry winds, the lawn may require additional water.
- The object is to water deeply, less frequently to encourage deep rooting.



Don't have a sprinkler system?

Let Orbit help you get started! Go to orbitonline.com to use the Orbit Sprinkler System

Designer to create an instant design with a complete parts list and instructions.

Step 1 Draw

Using the design tool, trace over the top of a scanned image of the property or a satellite image downloaded from maps.google.com.

Step 2 View

Once your property drawing is complete, view your custom sprinkler system design immediately!

Step 3 Save/print

With the design complete, save a PDF copy of the plan and installation guide to your computer. An **Orbit Sprinkler System Design** includes: Trenching, wiring, piping, head placement maps and step-by-step installation guide.

Print your parts list bring it to your nearest store and purchase your materials.

Start designing at orbitonline.com For questions about your design please email: designhelp@orbitonline.com or call 866-694-7913



Need an instant sprinkler system?

Try Orbit's **Complete Sprinkler Kit**, water the yard from the hose faucet; everything you need is included in the kit. Purchase **Orbit's Complete Sprinkler Kit** online at your local home improvement store.

Take the guesswork out of watering with Orbit B-hyve Smart Wifi Sprinkler Timer!



WeatherSense™ Smart

WeatherSense™ technology receives local weather data and automatically adjusts your controller to deliver the right amount of water to the lawn.

Water from Anywhere The B-hyve WiFi timer allows you to control your timer from anywhere with a cellular or internet connection.



Purchase Orbit B-hyve at your local home improvement center

Mowing



Mowing Guidelines

Mow for the first time on day 14 to three inches tall, when the blades of grass are dry. Never remove more than 1/3 of the grass in one mowing. The lawn must be well established before a riding mower is used.

Variety	Mowing Heights
Bermuda	1½" (3.8 cm) CA 1" (2.5 cm)
Bluegrass	1½"-2" (3.8-5 cm)
Centipede	2" (5 cm)
Fescue	1½"-2" (3.8-5 cm)
Ryegrass	1½" (3.8 cm)
St. Augustine	3" (7.6 cm) CA 1" (2.5 cm)
Zoysia	2" (5 cm)

Troubleshooting

BROWN AREAS

Water Deprivation

Sprinkler heads must rise above lawn level. Confirm water is reaching edges along sidewalks and spray patterns overlap.

Helpful suggestion: Before delivery, test the irrigation system on the installation surface; identifying dry areas.

Replace or adjust sprinkler heads, as needed.

Poor Contact

Soil may have settled, creating air pockets. Pull back the new sod, fill the area with clean soil, and ensure contact between sod and soil. Hand water the area thoroughly.

Helpful suggestion: Use a roller twice; in the final stage of soil preparation and after the SOD is installed. (The roller should be 1/3 full).

Installation Error

Sod seams must be tight and abut driveways and sidewalks. Airspace causes dryness. If the lawn adjoins a flowerbed, edges must have soil pushed against them.

Helpful suggestion: Begin installation along edges. See the "Installation" section of this guide.

Use **Scotts® DiseaseEx™ Lawn Fungicide™** to solve a wide range of problems and lawn diseases.

SOGGY AREAS

Standing Water

Poor drainage or an air pocket under sod may cause water to pool. A small area can be remedied by aerating with a screwdriver, then leveling the pocket with clean soil.

Helpful suggestion: Improve drainage with amendments

recommended in the "Preparation" section of this guide.

Night Watering

Adjust the irrigation schedule, allowing the lawn to dry before nightfall.

THINNING

Inadequate Sunlight

Helpful suggestion: Prune or thin trees or shrubs prior to installation.

Over Watering

Frequent, shallow watering of established lawns, leach nutrients and prevent proper oxygen absorption.

Helpful suggestion: If the lawn is mature, feed with a balanced fertilizer and schedule irrigation to be deeper and less frequent

For a thicker, more lush lawn use **Scotts® Turf Builder® Thick'R Lawn™**

YELLOW SPOTS

Pet Waste

If you have pets, you will have yellow spots — this is unavoidable, they may be repaired with **Scotts® EZ Seed® Dog Spot Repair™**.

Acidic Drip

Some trees and shrubs (especially conifers and eucalyptus) may cause yellowing or poor growth under the drip line.

Pool or Spa Splash

Chlorine and chemicals will yellow a lawn.

HAVE LAWN QUESTIONS? NEED INSPIRATION?
VISIT LAWNCENTRAL.COM

