

# HOW TO LAY SOD

Now that your soil preparation is completed, order your grass based off of your site conditions and lawn preferences. Since sod dries fast, it's important to have your soil preparation finished prior to your grass delivery. On your lightly moistened soil, lay your sod pieces with the edges butted tightly together, in a staggered brick like pattern. One person can place pieces of sod in a wheelbarrow and roll them to the work area. This person can also lay the pieces of sod on the soil. I like to have my helper, with a hard tined garden rake, "stab" and pull the pieces tightly together. Using a rake prevents bending over while working, saving your back and knees. Use a machete to trim your pieces of sod for curves and irregular shaped areas.

If you have a third helper, this person might start watering the newly laid sod with a garden hose, especially in the hot summer time. The faster you get water on the grass, the less transplant shock will occur. When your totally done laying your new sod, water thoroughly to a depth of 4" into your soil. Set up a rain gauge or cylindrical glass and time how long your sprinkler needs to run to water 1". You can't overwater new sod the first few days. Keep your soil very moist to wet the first two weeks. In the summer, this means daily watering. At this time you can check to see if your new roots have started growing into your soil. Temperature, grass type, and site conditions can make this take longer than 2 weeks, but not much longer except when soil temperatures are below 60 degrees. Do be sure to keep your soil wet during the winter even though you may not have roots yet. Once you have roots growing into your prepared soil, you may start to slowly taper off of your daily watering. From Spring thru Fall your grass should be rooted substantially after 4 weeks. At that time you will be watering once or twice a week depending on grass selection, sun exposure, and soil depth. You can mow your grass at this time between your water days, and soon you want to apply our Grass Patch Supreme Fertilizer to give your grass what Austin soils want.

Most lawns need 1" of water at least once a week. If your area only allows once a week watering you may consider watering early AM and before sunset. This helps your water soak in, instead of running into the street. Factor any rainfall into your watering schedule. Remember don't water too late in the evening as wet blades of grass encourage fungus problems.

Our grass is fertilized and treated regularly for insects, weeds and disease. You should not need any extra products at this time unless these problems already existed in your soil.