



ODERINGS
LANDSCAPING

LAWN AFTERCARE GUIDE

The hard work has been done and now it's time to sit back and enjoy your new landscaping. To ensure your lawn continues to look great for years to come we have compiled some helpful tips on caring for your new lawn.



YOUR NEW LAWN

Preparation is vital to ensure a good quality lawn. We take the time, use top quality products, and follow industry standard practices. Top quality screened soil is applied to a minimum depth of 150mm, then compacted and levelled to ensure an even lawn.

Whether we have built you a hand-sown, hydroseeded or instant lawn, by following some key guidelines you can ensure your lawn grows lush and green and stays that way.

Here are some helpful tips for caring for your new lawn.



HAND SOWING

Although this is the most economical way to build a lawn, it will take longer and require more care to get growing. Rest assured you can still have a beautiful, well developed lawn; you just need to be prepared to invest some time. The type of lawn seed used will depend on your lawn's development. If we haven't let you know the type of seed used, please get in touch to find out. For all seed types, following these tips will get things off to a good start.

GROWTH

Germination for hand seeding can vary from 5 days up to 30 days in optimal weather conditions. If the weather is cooler you can expect it to take longer. Once germination begins it may be very difficult to see with the naked eye, but it is happening. Not all seeds will germinate at the same time. This means that as your lawn comes up it may appear patchy. As time goes on and the different seeds catch up you will begin to see an even coverage. It will be safe to walk on your hand-sown lawn after 6-8 weeks, when watering requirements slow down.

WATERING

Once the seed is sown it's important that the lawn area is kept moist at all times until well germinated. However, overwatering can result in puddles, seed run-off and rotting.

Watering by hand or setting up soaker hoses for larger hard to reach areas is by far the best practice. Remember to move soaker hoses slightly every day or two to allow even germination. If you want to use sprinklers and timers ensure that they are set to go off multiple times a day for no longer than a few minutes each time. The exact time needed will depend on the sprinkler/irrigation heads used.

MOWING

Your new lawn will be ready to mow when it has reached a height of at least 5cm and the root system has had time to develop. We recommend that when you mow the first time, you set your mower to its highest setting. Over the next two months you can begin to slowly lower the height level of the mower until you reach the recommended optimum lawn height of 2.5-3cm. Never remove more than $\frac{1}{3}$ of the grass height at any time, even when established. For the first few months at least, use a catcher to avoid any clippings sitting on top and causing damage to your new lawn.

WEEDING AND FEEDING

It is not uncommon for there to be weed seeds in any screened soil, regardless of the quality. If you notice any weeds coming up in your new lawn it is important not to spray them until the lawn is well established. You can use a product like Yates Weed 'n' Feed from around 6 months.

Once your new lawn is established we recommend you feed it in spring, summer and early autumn with Oderings Lawn Replenish for an extra boost.



HYDROSEED

This is our most popular way of installing a new lawn. Hydroseeding is the process of spraying on a mixture of water, seed, fertiliser and mulch. This means your lawn will have a kick start with nutrients and moisture to get it growing.

GROWTH

This is the exciting part! Watching the grass grow. Hydroseeded lawns will generally start to germinate in around 5-7 days. This can be hard to see with the naked eye but if you get down to ground level and look across the lawn you will see the first blades of grass beginning to emerge. You will begin to see the lawn fill out after 3-4 weeks and by 8 weeks it will be a well-developed lawn. In cooler weather these times may be longer. If you are concerned at any stage we are only a call away.

It will be safe to walk on your hydroseeded lawn after 3-4 weeks, when watering requirements slow down.

WATERING

It is essential during germination and the early stages of lawn growth to keep the soil moist at all times. Watering early in the morning and late in the afternoon will stop excessive evaporation. Because of the water retention mulch in the hydroseed mix it is also important not to over-water – it really is a balancing act. Over-watering can result in pooling or run-off. Hand watering is best until the lawn is more established but if you prefer to use irrigation timers then set them to go off several times a day for just a few minutes each time.

As your lawn matures, its watering requirements will change. From around 4 weeks, deep watering is important to encourage deeper root growth. You should aim to water every day through the summer months and move down to once or twice a week in autumn and winter.

MOWING

Your new lawn will be ready to mow when it has reached a height of at least 5cm and the root system has had time to develop. We recommend that when you mow the first time, you set your mower to its highest setting.

Over the following three months you can begin to slowly lower the height level of the mower until you reach the recommended optimum lawn height of 2.5-3cm. Never remove more than 1/3 of the grass height at any time, even when established. For the first few months at least, use a catcher to avoid any clippings sitting on top and causing damage to your new lawn.

WEEDING AND FEEDING

It is not uncommon for there to be weed seeds in any screened soil, regardless of the quality. If you notice any weeds coming up in your new lawn it is important not to spray them until the lawn is well established. You can use a product like Yates Weed 'n' Feed from around 6 months.

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INSTANT LAWN

Instant lawn will give you an immediate showpiece, but it will still take some TLC to ensure it settles in well and roots down. Here are some important tips to follow once your instant lawn is down.

GROWTH

Your new lawn will already be around a year old when it arrives, and is well established. In warmer months you can expect growth to be fast, but it will slow down in the cooler months. Although it looks like it's ready to be walked on straight away, is very important that you don't. Walking on the lawn at this stage will leave indents from your footprints. Keep off the lawn completely for around two weeks, until the roots begin to take hold and the lawn begins to feel firm.

WATERING

We will have done the first watering for you. Instant lawn needs to have around 2-3cm of water applied within half an hour of installation.

Over the next two weeks while the lawn is putting roots down, the aim is to keep the turf roll and the top 50-100mm of soil under the roll moist. Watering early in the morning and late in the afternoon will stop excessive evaporation. If your lawn is laid during hot and/or windy months you may need to water 2-3 times a day.

Once the lawn has established, change your watering pattern to less often but for a longer period, as this will encourage the lawn to put down deep roots, which will help it during times of drought.

MOWING

Do not mow your new instant lawn straight away. It is important to give it time to settle in and root down before the first mow. As a guideline, you can mow your new lawn approximately two weeks after it's laid if it is installed during spring/summer, or allow three weeks if it is installed in autumn/winter.

We recommend that when you mow the first time, you set your mower to its highest setting and mow weekly. Being careful to never remove more than 1/3 of the grass blade. For the first few months at least, use a catcher to avoid any clippings sitting on top and causing damage to your new lawn.

WEEDING AND FEEDING

Your new instant lawn will come weed free. It has been thoroughly treated for weeds, pests, and diseases and should have no problems while getting established. It is important to note that the process of transplanting is stressful on instant lawn, and this, coupled with the frequent watering required, can provide opportunities for fungal growth. If you are concerned at any time, give us a call and we can talk you through any required treatment.

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