



You Tube is a very useful resource for instructional videos on fitting artificial grass. Here is our step by step guide.

Step 1: Remove the existing lawn

Remove the existing lawn and excavate to 50mm to 75mm below finished height. In some gardens, depending on existing levels, you can just remove the existing grass, which would remove around 30-40mm and build up to the required height from there. A turf cutter, which can be hired from your local tool hire shop, will make this step much easier.

Step 2: Install edging

If there is no existing hard edge or wall around the perimeter of your lawn, you'll need to install some form of retaining edge. For this, you can use either treated timber, steel edging, timber sleepers or block paving. We recommend using treated timber edging where possible as its also perfect to fix the grass to. Timber edging will need to be screwed to wooden stakes driven into the ground with a club hammer or sledge hammer.

Step 3: Got poor drainage or a dog? Install 50mm Sub-Base

If your garden suffers from poor drainage or you have a dog then you should consider putting down a sub-base of MOT type-1 roadstone or 20mm limestone chippings to a depth of 50mm (2 inches). Limestone chippings, when fully compacted, will drain more quickly which is ideal if you are hosing down after your pet on a regular basis. Mot Type-1 roadstone will provide a strong sub-base for heavy traffic areas but is slower to drain. Rake and level the sub-base to a depth of approximately 50mm. It's very important to ensure the sub-base is thoroughly compacted using a vibrating plate compactor which can also be hired from your local tool hire shop.

Step 4: Install the laying course

For the laying course, rake and level approximately 25mm – 40mm of sharp sand or Granite Dust (Grano) directly on top of the sub base. If using timber edging, the laying course should be levelled to the top of the timber. Again, ensure this is thoroughly compacted with a vibrating plate compactor. Before doing this, we recommend spraying the granite dust with water to keep the dust down and it also helps the aggregate to bind together.

Step 5: Install a permeable weed membrane

To prevent weeds from growing through your lawn, lay a weed membrane to the entire lawn area, overlapping edges to ensure weeds cannot penetrate between two pieces. You can use galvanised U-Pins to hold the membrane in place. If your existing lawn or garden is particularly prone to weeds we recommend spraying the area with weed killer beforehand.

Please note: If you have a dog then it is a good idea install the weed membrane under the laying course, this will assist faster drainage and stop urine getting trapped between the grass and membrane.



Step 6: Unroll the artificial grass

You will need some help at this point, depending on the size of your artificial grass rolls, they can be very heavy. Un-roll the grass and let it acclimatise for at least a few hours or preferably overnight. If possible, place the grass in a position so that the pile direction is facing towards your house (on a back garden) or main view point as this tends to be the best side to view the grass from. If you have two rolls of grass, ensure the pile direction is facing the same way on both pieces.

Step 7: Initial cut to size

Using a sharp Stanley knife, you can make the initial cut to the shape required but leave plenty of spare around the edges until after you have made any joins. Blades can blunt reasonably quickly so make sure you have plenty of spares on hand.

Step 8: Joining rolls together

If done correctly, joins should be invisible. Firstly, line up both pieces of grass ensuring that the pile direction is facing the same way and that they run parallel to each other. Fold back both pieces of grass by around 300mm to reveal the latex backing. It is very important that the stitch gauge (distance) between the lines of stitching is maintained when you join rolls together. If you are cutting from the very edge of a new roll then cut 3 stitch rows in to ensure you are into good grass. Nail the joining tape to the ground, shiny side down, to stop it moving. Apply aqua bond adhesive using a notched trowel to spread thinly and evenly over the joining tape, carefully bring the 2 rolls of grass together making sure that no grass gets trapped. Ensure there is good contact between the grass and adhesive by carefully walking along the join or laying wooden batons along it. Allow the adhesive sufficient time to cure (between 4-24 hours depending on weather conditions). **IMPORTANT:** Make sure you are happy with any joins before carrying out your final trim-up around the perimeter of the job. Done properly joins will be virtually invisible.

Step 9: Groom your new lawn

Once finished use a stiff brush or power-bush and brush gently against the pile direction of the lawn, this will lift the fibres. Over time any creases or unwanted fold marks will eventually disappear. **Optional:** Kiln dried sand at 4kg per square metre can be applied to the lawn, this can help with temperature control during hot weather and increase the life span of your grass if sustaining heavy use. This step can only be carried out on a dry day when the grass is completely dry as otherwise the sand will clump together. If possible, use a 'weed free' kiln dried sand which can be purchased at one of the national DIY hardware stores. We recommend using 4kg per square metre and using a stiff broom or power brush, brush the lawn in the opposite direction to the pile height to brush in.