



Water/Mowing/Fertilizer Guide for SOD

ESTABLISHMENT (Phase 1) NEWLY INSTALLED SOD (Weeks 1-4)

RTF

Fertilizer Instructions:	Spread Starter Fertilizer (18-24-12) before the sod is Installed. Recommended amount.* (Please see footnote) See Back under <i>Fertilizer Guide</i> .
Water Instructions:	As soon as the sod goes down, saturate the lawn so soil underneath sod is wet. After that, water in a way that keeps the soil moist continuously, which means water light and frequent 2-3x a day for the first 4 weeks.
Mowing Instructions:	Mow at 4" for the first three mows. After that you can mow at 2 ½" - 3" high.**

***Rec. amt for Starter: 5.5 lbs/1,000 sq ft**

****DO NOT mow if ground is saturated and doing so will leave tracks or footprints. Also, it's a good rule of thumb that you should not mow off more than 1/3 of the total height of the grass.**

ESTABLISHMENT (Phase 2) (Weeks 5-11)

RTF

Fertilizer Instructions:	Use Starter Fertilizer (18-24-12) after 6 weeks of installed date. Recommended amount.* After that you will begin the Maintenance Program. See Back under <i>Fertilizer Guide</i> .
Water Instructions:	1/2"-3/4" every other week, or more frequent if wilting occurs**
Mowing Instructions:	2" - 3" high***

***Rec. amt for Starter: 5.5 lbs/1,000 sq ft**

****Water instructions based on no rain, wind, excessive heat and/or drought. Also, do not let the grasses wilt in the establishment phases. If wilting occurs then more watering is necessary.**

*****It's a good rule of thumb that you should not mow off more than 1/3 of the total height of the grass.**

MAINTENANCE (Weeks 12+)

RTF

Fertilizer Instructions:	See Back under <i>Fertilizer Guide</i>
Water Instructions:	1/2"-3/4" every other week, or more frequent if wilting occurs*
Mowing Instructions:	2" - 3" high**

***Water instructions based on no rain, wind, excessive heat and/or drought. Also, do not let the grasses wilt in the establishment phases. If wilting occurs then more watering is necessary.**

****It's a good rule of thumb that you should not mow off more than 1/3 of the total height of the grass.**



Fertilizer Guide

Establishment – Phase 1 (Newly Installed Sod – Week 1)

STARTER FERTILIZER (18-24-12 /N-P-K) - For use at time of installation - preferably before the sod is installed, but you can apply afterwards if necessary. This fertilizer helps to stabilize the sod and begins blade and root development. This Starter Fertilizer will last for 6 weeks.

Establishment – Phase 2 (Week 6)

STARTER FERTILIZER (18-24-12 /N-P-K)– Use after the first 6 weeks have passed since the new sod was installed and the first application of Starter Fertilizer had been applied. Once you spread the Starter Fertilizer it will last for 6 weeks. This helps with root development and overall vigor.

Maintenance Program – 4 Step Lawn Fertilization Program (Week 12+)

PRE-EMERGENT FERTILIZER (15-0-5 /N-P-K) – For crabgrass and weed control. It can be applied in early April to mid-May.

POST-EMERGENT FERTILIZER (19-0-6 /N-P-K) – For broadleaf control. It can be applied mid-May to late June.

GRUB CONTROL FERTILIZER (20-0-5 /N-P-K) – For grub prevention and control. It can be applied late June to early August.

WINTERIZER FERTILIZER (32-0-6 /N-P-K) – Helps prepare your lawn for the winter. It can be applied mid-Sept to late Nov.

Maintenance Program Calendar:

MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV
	Step 1: Pre-Emergent							
		Step 2: Post-Emergent						
			Step 3: Grub					
						Step 4: Winterizer		

VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- ~ Depending on application timing, allow a minimum of 6 weeks between applications.
- ~ Starter Fertilizer is very important to the success of your new lawn in the first 3 months. From then on, depending where you fall on the calendar year, follow a normal fertilizer maintenance program.
- ~ You can use Pre-Emergent, Post-Emergent, and Grub Control with the Starter fertilizer IF weeds or insects are a concern.
- ~ These are general guidelines to follow. Weather conditions would influence how closely to follow our steps.

TURF TIPS:

1. When watering, use a rain gauge or some container with straight sides (like a tuna can) to measure your sprinkler's output. A common mistake is overestimating the amount of water being supplied by your sprinkler. Measure to be sure.
2. Water early in the morning, especially during the summer.
3. Avoid watering in the evening.
4. Make sure your new lawn (first 4 weeks) has enough moisture to survive hot, dry or windy days.
5. Depending on weather conditions you can adjust how many times you water and how much.
6. Do not 'drown' your lawn. If you do, you will have a lawn with a shallow root system that is susceptible to grubs and heat/drought stress.
7. Make sure you do not have heavy traffic (kids and/or pets) on your new lawn for the first 4 weeks.
8. Check perimeter areas and make sure they are getting enough water (i.e along curb/driveway/sidewalks).
9. Make sure your lawnmower has sharp blades.
10. Mow at a consistent height year-round between 2"-3".
11. DO NOT mow if ground is saturated and doing so will leave tracks or footprints.
12. It's a good rule of thumb that you shouldn't mow off more than 1/3 of the total height of the grass.
13. Leave the grass clippings on the lawn as they will add fertilizer to the turf and enrich your soil.