

# **Tundra Installation Instructions**

## **Step 1-Site Preparation**

- Measure the area you want to cover
- Remove any grass, sod, tree roots, mulch, rocks and any debris from installation area
- Install any curbing, edging, or other border materials
- Spread a 3" sub-base of a ¾ minus crushed stone. Generally, one ton per 100 square foot is advisable. Grade the base as smoothly as possible and compact to about 95%. It is best to use a plate compactor or a water roller (plate compactor is preferred over water roller – it is able to compact tighter). These items can be rented from your local hardware stores. Lightly wet the installation area after you have spread your 3" sub-base, then compact with the plate compactor to 2" depth.

## **Step 2-Installation of Turf**

- Roll out the turf on top of the prepared sub-base. Position the turf and pull out any wrinkles. Stake the turf down one side before you stretch or pull the turf. This will keep the turf from shifting. Allow the turf to warm up before stretching.
- Once you position the turf trim the edge of each piece of turf (with a razor knife or carpet cutter) so that they are very straight. Once you have cut the edges of each roll straight, lay them adjacent to each other on the base in the desired position. Make sure that the "tuft lines" or stitch lines of each roll match with each other. If you make good straight cuts and match the tuft lines, your seams will be virtually invisible. Once you have the turf cut and the tuft lines matched, you can seam the two pieces of turf together by using cold seaming tape (supplied by your turf supplier or purchased at any hardware store). Place both ends of the turf edges together, line up the "tuft lines" and then fold back the edges of the turf sections so that you can lay the cold seaming tape down underneath the turf sections. Peel the backing off the cold seaming tape to reveal the sticky side (up) and then simply fold the two sections of turf down together over the sticky seaming tape to form one seamless piece of turf. For additional seam assurance, you should also nail the seamed sections with 60d-6" nails along each side of the seam alternating about every 3 inches. Note: the nail should be 1" in from the seam edge. Make certain the nail heads are level with the turf backing, on both edges and seams, to prevent dimpling. Around the perimeter of the turf, use the same 60d-6" nails to secure the turf at the edges. Space the nails along the perimeter edges every 6-12 inches, or as needed. In addition to nailing the seams and perimeter edges, you should also nail in random patterns around the middle and inside of the turf.

### **Step 3-Infill**

In addition to nailing the turf, you will need to place and “infill” material on top of the turf. The fill material (sand or rubber) help to protect the turf from elements and to help keep it flat and level. The easiest way to spread infill is with a drop spreader (the type commonly used to spread grass seed, fertilizer, lime, etc.). You will need approximately 1.5 lbs of infill for every square foot of turf. This amount will vary according to variety of infill being used and desired appearance of blade exposure. Place the infill material in the hopper of the spreader and set at about a five on the gauge (or medium open) on the hopper. This opening size will allow for a fair amount of infill to get into the fibers of the turf. Walk slowly behind the spreader allowing the infill to spread evenly on the turf. Generally, you will spread about. ½ lb of infill per pass with the spreader. In between spreading the layers of infill, brush the turf fibers upright with a stiff bristled industrial broom or a power broom.

### **Step 4-Maintenance**

While this is a low maintenance product, there still is some maintenance required. Following these simple suggested routines will insure that you will protect and enjoy your new artificial grass for years to come.

1. Once every month you should blow off your turf with a leaf blower to get the leaves and dust off the turf fibers. This will take only a few minutes but will keep your turf looking beautiful.
2. Once every quarter, you should aggressively brush your turf (against) the grain to get the turf to stand up and to clean the dust and debris off the turf fibers. More infill may be required, if blades fall down easily.
3. You can brush the turf with a very stiff broom (garage type), carpet rake, or a power broom. If you have more than about 200 square foot, you may want to consider renting a power broom as it will do a better job and is far easier on your back.
4. Once every year you should power brush the turf and check the infill and seams.