

Caring For Your Artificial Turf Guide

Welcome to the club!

Whether this is your first time having artificial grass or your 10th, Turf Team would like to congragulate you on your recent investment. You can now enjoy your yard with the peace of mind of minimal maintennace.

We've created this guide for you to help keep your artificial grass in pristine condition for the years to come. Although you can throw away that old lawn mower, like any surface, artificial turf eventually needs some TLC.

Turf Care Mythbusters

Below we will debunk what you can and CAN'T do with your artificial turf.

Hot Objects will damage my turf: True. Although your artificial turf is designed to withstand the natural heat of the sun. You should deffinately avoid placing objects that are too hot to touch on your turf. This will melt the blades and will cause damage. If your turf becomes too warm to walk on in the summer, you can hose it down to help lower the temperature.

Artificial Turf is Maintenance free: False. Although artifcial turf requires a fraction of the attention that a traditional lawn does, there is still a certain degree of upkeep associated with it. The main thing that you will have to do is avoid letting any soil or organic debris onto your turf. This can act as a nutrient rich base for weeds and grasses to grow into your artificial turf. During fall time, pick up any leaves within 1 week of them falling onto your turf. Avoid letting any soil/ debris heavy runoff onto your turf.

Heavy Objects: True/False. You may place but not drop heavy objects onto your artificial turf. Beneath it is compacted road base (not concrete). A heavy object with a small surface area can cause dents in the base below. Cutting large tree branches and allowing them to fall onto your artificial turf will often cause this type of damage.

I can use a vacuum to clean my artificial turf: True/False. You may vacuum your artificial turf if the nozzle is pointed parallel to the grade of the artificial turf. Only vacuum with the nozzle following the grain of the grass (you can determine the grain of the grass by brushing it with your hands. The direction that gives the least resistance will determine the direction of the grain). Do not point the nozzle downwards and allow for a vacuum seal against the turf. This will suck up the infill beneath the artificial turf.

I can clean my turf with a pressure washer: FALSE Do not at anytime pressure wash your artificial turf. This will damage the turf, the infill and the base below.

UV exposure will fade colour: False. Our artificial turfs are fade proof up to 10 years and will not change colour with heavy sun exposure.

Outdoor furniture will damage the turf: False. Outdoor furniture may be placed on artificial turf, it's recommended that the legs of the furniture have at least a 1" surface area to prevent denting. Do not place outdoor furniture on putting turfs since this is more susceptible to denting. You may place but not drop heavy objects onto your artificial turf. Beneath it is compacted road base (not concrete). A heavy object with a small surface area can cause dents in the base below. Use extra caution when trimming large/heavy tree branches on top of your artificial turf.

Quick Fixes

Lifted /Folded turf: This may happen if you need to access something that is underneath the turf. To fix this issue you must first assess the condition of the base underneath. If the base has loose gravel, you can carefully tamp it back down using a flat board 2"x4" or 2"x6" (Widest face down). Make sure that the base is perfectly flat and well compacted. Be careful if walking on the base to not loosen any more gravel. Remove any nails from the perimeter and fold back the turf making sure there are no folds or wrinkles. Begin re-nailing the perimeter. To do this, use two fingers to push away any grass fibres and expose the infilled backing. Drive nails 4" apart ¼" away from the perimeter of the turf. Be careful not to strike any irrigation or electrical lines. Do not nail hard, the head of the nails only need to be flush with the base. Nailing too hard can leave dents in the base.

Loose gravel under turf: This may happen if the turf is lifted and the compacted base underneath the turf is disturbed before laying it back down. This issue can be identified by a bump underneath the artificial turf. The peak of the bump is solid with the rest being hollow. This issue can be solved easily. Take a 2"x4" board, placing it (widest face on the down) on top of the piece of loose gravel and hit the board with a hammer until the piece of gravel is driven back into the ground.

Turf Fibres Matted down: Common examples of these are when patio sets are placed on the artificial turf and taken in for fall/winter time. These may leave grass blades matted down. This issue is easily fixable by taking a nail or screw driver and brushing the grass blades back up. In more severe cases, this may be caused by the infill being pushed and not being able to support the grass fibres. This can be solved by adding more infill into the affected area.

Cleaning your Turf

Animal droppings: Pick up and dispose of any solids, hose down the area and if needed apply turf renew to deodorize the area.

Weeds and Moss: If left alone, your artificial turf may accumulate moss. It is not recommended that you apply weed killer for moss on putting greens as this may cause the moss to stain the artificial turf after it dies. Use a powerbroom to dislodge the moss's shallow roots and sweep up the rest by hand.

Weeds: Apply weed killer if weeds are small. For larger weeds, carefully pull up by hand. If the weeds are close to the perimeter, be careful to not pull up the turf and its nails. It's recommended that you use a powerbroom afterwards to disperse seedlings and uproot small weeds. When using weed killer, ensure that the runoff won't affect nearby plants or ecosystems.

Stains: You may use a variety of household cleaners on artificial turf including bleach. When applying chemicals on your artificial turf, ensure that you wash the area down thoroughly afterwards to remove any residue. Ensure that the runoff won't affect nearby plants or ecosystems.

Debris: There are 3 main pieces of equipment that you may use to pick up debris on your artificial turf. Leaf blowers, hard bristle brooms, We nail the perimeter of all of our artificial turfs to the point that they're hurricane proof so that leaf blowers can be used on them. When using power brooms, do not push down aggressively on the perimeter as this may lift up nails and damage the turf.

Turf Team's Maintenance Program

It is recommended that you take a preventative approach to keeping your artificial turf in pristine condition.

We can help with annual or biannual turf cleaning for those who want to save time and have a thorough, professional cleanup.

Our approach to artificial turf maintenance is unique to each of our clients and includes:

- Leaf and debris removal
 Small turf repairs
 Re-infilling
 Power brooming
 Weed and moss removal
- Stain removal and more

Talk to a Turf Team Representative to learn more about our Artificial Turf Maintenance Programs:

Contact: info@turfteamlandscaping.com