



## SOD CARE SHEET

### Initial Care

#### FIRST DAY WATERING

The sod should be watered well as soon as it is laid. Check by walking on it. If you make deep footprints, it has enough water. If the soil is firm, lift a corner of the sod to inspect. The soil on the back of the sod should be damp to wet. If it is not damp, water for at least thirty minutes.

#### SECOND THROUGH FIFTH DAY WATERING

Check your lawn at least one time per day, or more than once if it is hot or windy. Walk on the new lawn to inspect it. If the soil is soft and you make deep footprints, or water has puddles in areas, it is too wet and you should stop watering for a while, and water less often with less water. If the soil is firm, lift a corner of the sod in several places. The soil should be damp, not dripping wet or dusty dry. Areas where the grass has wilted or turned straw color have not received enough water, which caused the leaves to die. The rolls indicate not enough water in needed has been applied and should water longer or more often. Temperature above 80 degrees Fahrenheit generally means more water is needed, and below 60 degrees Fahrenheit means less water is needed. In the cooler months of March, April, October, and November, sod needs much less water.

#### FURTHER WATERING

After seven days or so, the soil has soaked up water like a sponge, and you must reduce your watering habits or you will drown the new roots. Roots will not grow into waterlogged soils. Begin stretching out the time between watering. Reset your timer if you have an automatic system. Begin the transition to water as indicated under the "Long Term Care" section of this document.

#### MOWING

Mow your new turf as soon as it grows enough to need it as the heights suggest under the "Long Term Care" section of this document. Sod will grow new roots best when it is mowed regularly and at the proper height. Arrange it so you do not water just before mowing so the mower won't sink into soft soil.

#### HOW SOON CAN THE SOD BE USED

The sod is ready to be used instantly. The only concern is how soft the underlying soil is. Making deep footprints when the soil is soft won't hurt the sod, but will make for an uneven lawn. If children play and turn a corner up, just pat it back down.

#### WEED KILLERS

Your sod doesn't need any. Should a dandelion be present, just pull it out.

#### FERTILIZATION

The lawn does not need fertilizer for two weeks. Use this time to decide if you are going to fertilize the lawn yourself, or hire a service to do so.

**\*\*\*Please remember there is no warranty on sod after acceptance. Initial care is critical to success\*\***