

ARTIFICIAL TURF CARE GUIDE



TURF SELLERS
TURF MADE SIMPLE

Homeowners prefer artificial grass for its ability to remain healthy and presentable with minimal upkeep. With that being said, you still need to inspect your lawn to ensure that it lasts for the full length of its lifespan. The reality is that your synthetic turf still needs some care and maintenance to keep it looking fresh. Fortunately, it is easy enough to do yourself!

Artificial Grass Has Unique Needs

Artificial grass does not face the same threats as real grass does— nor does it require the same routine maintenance procedures. An artificial lawn is not as susceptible to weeds or diseases/fungi, but it risks other wear and tear in high traffic areas, and battering from the elements. Just because it is artificial does not mean that it does not require time and attention once it is installed.

Artificial Grass Care and Maintenance

Caring for artificial turf involves daily awareness and management of what happens to your lawn. Having children and/or pets will require varying levels of stain management. Unlike real grass, where food, pet, or oil stains would eventually grow out or be mown away, spills and stains on artificial grass need to be resolved in order to maintain the quality look and feel of your synthetic turf.

Listed below are seven artificial turf care and maintenance tips to ensure that your yard remains green and healthy for years to come!

1. For Mild Stains

Life happens, and it often occurs on the grass. Sooner or later, a plate will go tumbling to the ground during a backyard barbecue, an alcoholic beverage will be knocked over, or a pet will leave its mark somewhere in the yard. For stains including cola, alcohol, urine, blood, coffee, tea, and other everyday liquid substances, cleaning is relatively simple.

You will need to:

1. Be prompt. Cleaning up a spill quickly is the best way to ensure that it will not leave a long-lasting, stubborn stain.
2. Blot the spilled liquid with a towel or a dry absorbent such as “kitty litter” if needed.
3. Rinse the area with a mixture of water and mild household detergent. This will not harm the fibers!
4. If you need a stronger stain removal aid, use a 3% solution of ammonia in water instead of the household detergent. NO BLEACH!!
5. Thoroughly rinse the cleaner out using clean, cool water.

2. For Stubborn Stains

Substances like motor oil, grease, pen ink, cooking oil, suntan oil, and crayon can end up on your turf, and they often prove to be a bit more stubborn than the everyday substances mentioned above. If a stain does not respond to mild household detergents or an ammonia mixture, try using mineral spirits to remove the stain. The cleaning process is similar with mineral spirits: gently rinse the area, and blot up the excess liquid.

3. For the Really Sticky Stuff

Tree sap and chewing gum can also end up stuck in artificial turf, but luckily they are relatively easy to remove. Dry ice or aerosol refrigerants can be used to freeze the sap or gum off, and it can then be scraped off the grass.

4. Removing Pet Waste

Having pets does not mean that you must incessantly clean and rinse your artificial grass. Clean up of pet waste is simple: allow solid waste to dry before you remove it. Artificial grass will drain most liquid. However, if you need to remove a smell, spray the turf with cool water from a hose on urine spots. Most stains that fall upon artificial grass are removable; however, it is best to avoid stains and damage to artificial turf as soon as possible. For example, in addition to keeping liquids that could potentially stain the grass far away or secured, keep cigarettes and fireworks away from artificial turf, and do not use strong chemicals near the grass.

5. Maintaining Your Lawn for the Future

In addition to the everyday accidents, artificial turf owners should follow a few routine steps to maintain the quality and longevity of the synthetic turf. Artificial turf generally lasts anywhere between 15 to 25 years, depending on its use. Following a routine of removing the debris, rinsing regularly, and cross brushing will help artificial turf achieve a long, useful lifespan.

6. Equipment You Need

In order to routinely maintain and care for your artificial grass, you want to be sure that you have the essential tools. You will definitely need a water hose! If the area receives rain frequently, this is less of a necessity, but still helpful for rinsing the grass at will. A leaf blower is also useful, or a lawn vacuum, for eliminating fallen leaves before they become ground into the artificial turf. A rake will also help to keep the fibers of the grass fresh and unmatted. Avoid using damaging metal bristles, and use synthetic or plastic bristles instead.

7. Clean, Rinse, Brush, Repeat

There are four necessary steps to taking care of your synthetic grass regularly. These steps should be carried out monthly, if not weekly.

1. Remove debris from the grass. This is especially important after high winds or thunderstorms. Removing leaves, branches, and other debris will protect your turf from damage.
2. Rinse the turf regularly. Use a hose with cool, clean water to remove dust and pollen. If you live in an area that receives rain often, you will not have to rinse the grass with a hose as frequently.
3. Brush the grass against the grain in high-traffic areas. Cross brushing against the grain will help prevent matting.
4. Repeat, of course.

In Conclusion:

Artificial grass is a worthy investment, and like all investments, it needs care and maintenance to keep it in optimal shape. Following these directions for cleaning and removing stains, as well as making sure it is free from debris, rinsed regularly, and often brushed in high-traffic areas are essential aspects of care and maintenance that will certainly pay off in protecting your new beautiful yard.

**If you have any questions regarding any of this information,
do not hesitate to give us a call.**