

DIY turf checklist



What you'll need:

- Measuring tape;
- Rotary hoe & roller (optional);
- Shovel, pitchfork & spade;
- Rake to smooth out soil;
- Starter fertiliser & water crystals;
- Fertiliser & spreader;
- Shears or sharp knife to cut the turf;
- Dynamic lifter or similar;
- Hose, sprinkler or irrigation system.

1 Measuring & ordering

Work out the square meterage (m²) of the area you plan to turf. The following formulas will help you to determine m²:

Square or rectangle: length x width

Triangle (90°): length x width ÷ 2

Circle: 3.14 x radius x radius

Semi circle: 3.14 x radius x radius ÷ 2

Sir Walter comes in easy-to-handle premium quality slab cut form to ensure easy establishment all year round. Each piece of turf measures 1200mm by 400mm (ie: 2 slabs = 1m² - 40m² of turf will weigh approx 1 tonne). So to transport larger orders you will need a tandem trailer with brakes, or



a one tonne ute. You can NOT carry more than 30m² on any trailer without brakes. Prime slab cut turf is nearly half the weight of a traditional turf roll, making it easier on your back. Deliveries of fresh cut Sir Walter turf will be made to selected stores every weekend until sold out.

2 Site preparation

Quality site preparation is the most critical step to ensuring the best long term result from your turf landscape investment. To avoid weed problems, do not lay turf on top of existing grass, spray existing grass with roundup and remove desiccated weeds from the site. If your site already has a good base of topsoil (at least 100mm) you can use either a pitchfork or rotary hoe to cultivate the area.

If you have minimal topsoil you will need to import a quality turf underlay from your local sand and soil garden centre.

We recommend a soil depth of 100mm-150mm. We recommend your prepared surface sit approximately 40mm below concrete paths or garden edges.

Applications of pelletised fowl manure applied to your prepared surface at



20kg/100m² will help with initial moisture retention, while also providing an effective slow release fertiliser.

3 Laying your lawn

Turf is a perishable product. It is critical you lay your turf as soon as it is delivered.

Before laying, ensure:

- Prepared surface is firm but not packed too tightly.
- The soil is moist to avoid scalding the roots, especially during warmer months.
- You rake water crystals through the top 20-30mm of your prepared area to enhance moisture retention.

Apply fertiliser over prepared surface before laying your lawn. Lay turf along the longest and straightest edge of the prepared site, staggering the joins in a brick-like formation as you go.

If laying turf on steep gradients you may have to peg it down to prevent it from moving until roots have initiated. When finished laying, you can use a roller (optional) to ensure good soil-turf contact.



Available at
BUNNINGS
warehouse

Why Australians choose Sir Walter:

- Water-smart, low-maintenance, non-invasive with an amazing ability to repair itself
- Performs well in sun or part-shade and is great for blocking out unwanted weeds
- Great for kids & pets and is the most enviro-friendly turfgrass on the market
- With a soft luscious leaf Sir Walter is Australia's #1 selling turf variety



4 Watering

Protect your turf landscape investment and take the guess work out of dragging hoses around and install an automated irrigation system!

New turf needs regular attention and lots of TLC during the first stages of establishment to ensure you get the best result long term. Once your turf is established it will require minimal care. But it is critical that it is successfully transferred into your new environment. Ensure you keep turf moist until roots

have established. Depending on time of year and degree of heat during establishment period, establishment time could vary anywhere from between 2-3 weeks or 5-6 weeks. If you are using subsurface irrigation, it is critical to water turf from above during establishment. Water requirements will vary during establishment pending climate conditions, soil type, and gradient of area. To minimise water requirements during establishment we



recommend starter fertiliser and water crystals. Water the turf immediately after laying and then 2 to 3 times a day for at least a fortnight. Keep traffic to a minimum during the first 6 weeks.

5 Mowing

You may start to mow your new lawn as soon as the turf is firmly rooted (generally about 2 to 3 weeks - root establishment may take longer during cooler months). When mowing, ensure your blades are always sharp to prevent plant injury.

Generally, never remove more than one third of the grass length in a single mowing. When mowing your Sir Walter lawn, keep your mowing height between 30mm - 50mm to ensure it maintains its soft leaf texture.



6 Fertilising

To ensure the best results long term it is critical you FERTILISE your new turf 5-6 weeks after installation. This is the final step in the installation process.

- April:** Apply fertiliser (critical to prepare your lawn for winter)
- May:** Apply fertiliser
- June:** Apply Seasol (a plant conditioner to help protect your lawn from frost and promote winter colour retention)
- July & August:** Apply Seasol
- September & October:** Apply fertiliser (critical to help your lawn recover from Winter).

Annual Maintenance for Sir Walter.

November - February: De-thatch your lawn if it starts to feel spongy. Apply fertiliser after de-thatching to enhance your lawn's speed of recovery.



NB. This is a guide only. If your lawn incurs any additional stress it may require further management.



Learn more at:
turfsmart.com.au

