TURF

Provender Nurseries turf, is delivered fresh every Tuesday and Thursday. We can supply a minimum of 80m² on a specific date, provided turf is booked in and paid for in advance (please note-turf is not delivered on Saturday or Monday).

Mix: The below mix provides a dense sward to give the ideal qualities for wear and repair qualities.

- 30% Perennial Ryegrass
- 10% Strong Creeping Red Fescue
- © 30% Slender Creeping Red Fescue
- 20% Smooth Stalked Meadow Grass
- 10% Chewings fescue

Good to know:

- This hardwearing seed mix is ideal for the domestic landscaping market.
- © Grown on fertile Kent loam, our turf is suited to local soil types and aids rapid establishment.
- Turf is grown for 18-24 months before harvest, and pre-fed 2 weeks before cut and supply.
- © Each turf covers 1m² (1700mm x 584mm).

Ordering Turf:

- Work out how much turf you require, and allow an additional 5%.
- Remember that turf needs to be laid within 24 hours of receipt. Even in cold weather, we advise it is laid as soon as possible.

Preparation:

- This is the most important step time and care taken now will reap rewards for your new lawn.
- Strip off old turf and weeds by digging underneath the turf, lifting off about 4cm of soil. Shake soil from roots and reuse.
- Dig through the <u>underlaying</u> soil to a depth of approximately 15cm, breaking it up as you go to ensure any roots are removed. This will aerate the soil, improve drainage and aid root establishment.

Raking and Levelling:

- © Compact the soil by walking on it with your heels, then rake over in different directions, dragging soil into low areas to level the garden. Discard any stones and roots.
- Build up levels and add Provender topsoil as required (A bulk bag covers 10-12m² at 5cm depth)
- © Repeat and re-rake until the surface is firm and level. Dips in the soil may cause roots to dry out, and humps will be scalped by your mower.

Laying turf (lay immediately after collection/delivery):

- Start at a point furthest away from you (so not to walk on newly laid turf when laying the next row). Rake again to remove footprints, if required.
- Unroll the first turf against a straight edge, then butt up the next turf and unroll. Make sure the edges don't lift as these will dry out. Always use boards to walk on so turf is not damaged. In parallel, start the next row by butting the edges up to the last row, staggering the joints to resemble brickwork. Tamp the turf down with the back of a rake or board as you go, especially the joins to ensure roots are in contact with the soil.

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Turfing rakes have a flat surface on the other side to tines to level the top layer of soil. **Use a preturfing feed before laying. If this step has not been done, feed can also be applied as soon as possible if watered in well **

Watering:

Once your new turf is laid, soak thoroughly, ensuring the edges are well watered.

- Your turf will need to be watered daily, preferably in early morning or late evening for the first couple of weeks. Try to keep off the turf until the roots have knitted into the soil.
- After a few days, check to see if the roots have bedded into the soil underneath. Lift a corner gently to see that fresh white roots extend from the turf into the soil.
- © Once the turf has established, you can walk on it and reduce the watering frequency.

Cutting:

- © Do not cut turf until turf has knitted into the soil below, and cannot be lifted by the corner
- Make sure lawnmower blades are sharp and clean. Be careful not to rip turf, as this will aid infection.
- The first cut should be on the highest level, and no more than a third of the sward taken off.
- © Do not cut below 2.5cm in the first season, or if turf is wet. Remove all clippings.
- Do not cut turf after October in the first year.

Aftercare:

- March Apply a Spring/Summer (high nitrogen) lawn fertiliser as instructed by the manufacturer. This promotes strong growth and aid recovery after winter.
- Scarify your lawn to remove moss and other debris and remove. Use a treatment from Provender to deal with spores. Spot treat weeds as you see them to prevent spread.
- April Repair any bumps or hollows, by adding or removing soil and replacing turf.
- May Turf will have taken up most of the feed you applied in March. Reapply according to manufacturers' instructions. Or you could try 'NO MOW MAY.'
- June Move any furniture/toys etc so grass is not damaged. If lawn feed is due, do this before rain or water in well, or it may scorch the lawn. Keep mowing little and often do not scalp it as this will cause damage.
- July/August Lack of rain may mean your lawn starts to yellow. There is no need to worry for an established lawn as it will bounce back, but new lawns will require water. Do not cut.
- September Your turf should start to green again and will need to be scarified to remove moss and dead turf to stimulate the plants. Aerate to oxygenate plants (but not if still dry weather) and treat weeds.
- Switch to an Autumn/Winter feed this will have little nitrogen, and lots of phosphorous and potassium to support root growth.
- © **October** Remove fallen leaves as soon as possible. Expect to mow a couple of times, ensuring all cuttings have been removed, and blades are still sharp.
- November Aerate, and apply winter feed if not done so already. Keep off the lawn when the grass is frozen. Remove any toys and furniture to allow grass to recover. Clean mower and edging tools in preparation for the next year.