A Guide to Laying Artificial Grass

Transform your backyard!

Create a whole new playground! Update your pool surrounds! In fact, our range of artificial grass can transform any outdoor area. Artificial grass is a terrific, low maintenance solution that will turn any surface into a great looking lawn.

Before

After

Our Artificial Grass Range

Dalton
- UV Resistant
- 8mm pile height

Roma
- UV Treated
- 15mm pile height

Madrid
- UV Treated
- 30mm pile height

Suggested Tools

- Artificial Grass
- Grass Cutter
- If the area is large you may need to hire one.
- Artificial Grass Joining Tape
- Gravel/Crushed Rock
- Please refer to Calculation Guide to assist you to calculate how much you will need.
- Unicorn Filter Sand (Infill)
  (available at Clark Rubber stores)
- Whacker/Compactor/Tamper
  If the area is large you may need to hire one.
- Turf Pegs: 150-200mm
- Garden Hose, Rope or Spraypaint
- Tape Measure
- Sharp Heavy Duty Utility Knife
- Hammer
- Wheel Barrow
- Shovel
- Rake
- Yard Broom
- Screed
Calculation Guide

To ascertain the amount of crushed rock/gravel required:
Multiply length of the area (metres) by the width of the area (metres) by the depth of the area you wish to lay the artificial grass.

Important: Please note the Calculation Guide and Laying of Artificial Grass Instructions are merely a guide. They have been provided for general purposes only. They do not take into consideration the specifics of the area you are laying the artificial grass. Clark Rubber does not provide any warranties as to accuracy or reliability in relation to information in this guide or the Calculator and therefore does not accept any responsibility for loss, damages or injury for omissions or errors.

**Total Amount (cubic meters)**

\[ \text{Length} \times \text{Width} \times \text{Depth} \]
**Step 1: Preparation**

**Mark Out Area:**
Before starting, please note that in order to avoid water pooling on your grass, you will need to allow for natural drainage and run-off. Artificial grass will only allow a small amount of water to drain through. Heavy rainfall will need to run off.

Using a rope, garden hose or spraypaint, mark out the area you want to lay the artificial grass.

**Measuring the Area:**
Begin by measuring the total area that you have marked out. This is important as it will minimise both wastage and the number of joins in the artificial grass once laid.

Generally, artificial grass is available to purchase in 3.7m or 1.85m widths by the metre. Therefore, it is imperative that you measure the area correctly in order to work out the amount of grass required for the area.

It is very important to have the pile running in the same direction for a more natural and seamless finish.

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**Step 2: Clearing**

First, contact “Dial before you Dig” or a similar service in your state to ensure you locate any underground issues that you may need to take into consideration before clearing.

Using a shovel, remove any existing grass/surface. If the area is large, you may want to consider hiring a turf cutter to assist in clearing the area.

Once you have cleared the area, check your levels against any adjoining area or edging, as you will need to dig out between 70-100mm of soil in order to create a solid base. Depending on the levels, you may well be 70-100mm below any existing edging or adjoining area. If that is the case, then you just need to ensure any old grass is scraped off the surface.

Edge the finished area if required using timber batons, bricks/block edging or even metal edging systems.

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**Step 3: Laying the Base**

See ‘Calculation Guide on page 2 to ascertain the amount of crushed rock/gravel required.

Evenly cover the finished area with gravel/crushed rock and spread it out using a rake. At the same time, take note of any natural fall/slope as this will help with drainage if a heavy downpour was to occur.

Using the length of screed, screed out the gravel/crushed rock until it’s smooth and flat. This is done by placing the screed on top of the gravel/crushed rock and dragging it along the surface. This will help to even out the gravel/crushed rock and remove any excess.

Spray the surface lightly with water, this will help the base set.

Then, level the gravel/crushed rock base using the Whacker/Compactor/Tamper. You should compact the area at least twice to help the base set as hard as possible.

Take your time and you will get the best result. This is the most important step in the whole process of the installation as it determines the look of the final result.
Step 4: Laying the Grass

Starting from one edge, rollout the artificial grass allowing for overhang at the edges (as the grass is heavy, it may require two people).

Measure the area using a tape measure and then mark the cut lines on the back side of the grass. Allow an excess of about 10cms which can be trimmed later.

Using a sharp heavy duty utility knife, cut the grass to size.

When laying artificial grass, remember when there are multiple pieces of the grass, ensure they’re laid so the fibres run in the same direction.

Once laid, stand back and appraise; if any changes are required, they’ll need to be done at this point.

Step 5: Invisible Joins

There are a couple of options when it comes to joining grass pieces together. If you’re laying grass on an existing hard surface such as pavers or concrete, you can use an adhesive like Selleys Kwikgrip, Kwikgrip Gel or Roberts Grass Adhesive. If you’re laying grass on the ground, then a joining tape will most likely need to be used, We recommend Artificial Grass Joining Tape which is available at your nearest Clark Rubber store.

When joining two or more pieces together, roughly line up the edges before folding the edges up and check that the fibres are running in the same direction.

Lay the two pieces on the ground and line them up, ensuring there is no more than 1mm gap between them but not overlapping.

Dry join the grass, making sure both sides are lined up with joins unseen.

Fold the two pieces of the join back to allow room for the tape.

Roll out tape, ensuring it’s positioned correctly and covering both sides of the grass equally.

Peel the backing tape off of the joining tape and carefully push the grass down onto the tape.

Slowly work your way down the length of the grass, making sure the joined gap is the same all the way along.

Walk along the joint several times ensuring that the glue has soaked into the backing.

You may need to stimulate the pile along the joint as some fibres may be lying flat.

Allow about 30 minutes for the joining tape to adhere.

Take your time to carefully cut the grass around the surrounding edges, making sure the grass is sitting flat.

Artificial Grass Joining Tape

- Split backing peel & stick formula
- Soft & comfortable adhesive makes it easier to use in cold weather
- Superior bond strength after 2 hours
- Simple for DIY installers
- Quicker to use than alternative systems.
Step 6: Securing the Grass

Secure the grass down using 150mm Turf Pegs around the edge of the artificial grass area, spacing them out by 250mm throughout the whole area. Ensure you push the fibres of the grass away from under the pegs so that the pegs sit flush with the surface. Clean the area of any off-cuts and left over scrap.

Step 7: Sand Filling

Sand filling adds weight and helps the pile remain upright, ensuring the grass looks more luscious. The amount of sand required is dependent on the length and density of the grass. As a guide, our Madrid Grass has a 30mm pile height; as a result, you’ll require approximately 6 X 20kg bags of Unicorn Sand per 10 m².

The sand needs to be applied in two stages. First, apply evenly to cover the whole area, moving up and back in straight lines. Using a yard broom, brush the sand into the pile, ensuring this is done against the direction of the pile.

Distribute more sand and repeat the process until you achieve a sand level of 12.5mm.

Never worry about mowing your grass again. To maximise appearances, simply broom or rake the area on a monthly basis to help keep it looking neat & tidy.

For more information call 13 80 90 or visit clarkrubber.com.au

Have fun!