



You Tube is a useful resource for instructional videos on fitting artificial grass.

The following information is intended to be used as a guide, if after reading this you are in any doubt then please seek professional advice.

## Step 1: Remove the existing lawn

The existing lawn must be removed - a turf cutter will make this step much easier for larger areas and can be hired from your local tool hire shop. Option A: Excavate down 40mm - 50mm below the finished height or alternatively, Option B: If you don't want to dig down then create a frame with timber, sleepers or brickwork and build up to the required finished height. If choosing option "B" then ignore step 3, you have already created a hard edge!

## Step 2: Got poor drainage or a dog? Install a Sub-Base

If your garden suffers from poor drainage or you have a dog then consider putting down a sub-base of compactable hardcore or MOT type-1 roadstone to a depth of 80mm to 100mm. It is very important to ensure the sub-base is thoroughly compacted using a vibrating plate compactor which can be hired from your local tool hire shop. **Tip:** Dig down deeper in soft-spot areas or areas that tend to puddle after heavy rain.

## Step 3: Install edging

If there is no existing hard-edge or wall around the perimeter of your lawn, you will need to install some form of retaining edge. For this, you can use either treated timber, steel edging, timber sleepers or block paving.

## Step 4: Install the laying course

For the final laying course, rake and level approximately 25mm – 30mm Granite Dust (Grano) or sharp sand, directly on top of the subbase. Ensure this is level and thoroughly compacted with a vibrating plate compactor. **Tip:** Spray the Grano with water to keep the dust down when compacting.

## Step 5: Install a permeable weed membrane

To prevent weed growth, lay a weed membrane to the entire area, overlapping edges to ensure weeds cannot penetrate between two pieces. Use 15cm galvanised nails to hold the membrane in place. If your existing lawn or garden is particularly prone to weeds, we recommend spraying the area with weed killer beforehand. **Please note:** If you have a dog then it is a good idea to install the weed membrane under the Granite Dust/Sharp Sand laying course, this will assist faster drainage and stop urine getting trapped between the grass backing and weed membrane. **Tip:** Use fabric type weed membrane not polypropylene, polypropylene weed membrane can sometimes crunch under foot.

## Step 6: Unroll the artificial grass

You will need some help at this point, depending on the size of your artificial grass rolls, they can be very heavy. Unroll the grass and let it acclimatise for at least a few hours or preferably overnight. **On a back garden install the grass with the pile direction (grass fibres) leaning towards the house or main viewpoint.** If you have two rolls of grass, ensure the pile direction is leaning the same way on both pieces. On a **front garden** you may want the grass to be viewed at it's best from the road, in which case the pile direction (grass fibres) will lean towards the road.

## Step 7: Initial cut to size

Using a sharp Stanley knife trim **from the back of the grass** to the shape required but leave plenty of spare around the edges until after you have made any joins. **Tip:** Mark out and cut small sections at a time to ensure you do not over cut. **Tip:** Blades can blunt quite quickly so make sure you have plenty of spares on hand. **Wear Gloves!**

## Step 8: Joining rolls together

If carried out correctly, joins should be virtually invisible.

First line up both pieces of grass parallel to each other ensuring that the pile direction is facing the same way. Fold back both pieces of grass by around 300mm to reveal the latex backing. Trim both rolls of grass along the edges that are to be joined, it is important that the stitch gauge (distance) between the lines of stitching is maintained when trimming. If you are cutting from the very edge of a new roll then cut the scrim cloth off (**and throw it away**) along with 2 rows of stitches to ensure you are into good grass. **Tip:** Nail the joining tape to the ground, **shiny side down**, to stop it moving. Apply aqua bond adhesive using a notched trowel, spread thinly and evenly over the joining tape, carefully bring the 2 rolls of grass together making sure that no grass gets trapped. Ensure there is good contact between the grass and adhesive by carefully walking along the join or laying wooden batons along it. Allow the adhesive sufficient time to cure (between 4-24 hours depending on weather conditions).

**Tip:** When finished nail or pin the grass, at intervals, 150mm either side of the join.

**IMPORTANT:** Make sure you are happy with any joins before carrying out your final trim-up around the perimeter of the job.

Follow this link for a useful video on joining artificial grass rolls.

[Joining artificial grass rolls video](#)

## Step 9: Groom your new lawn

Once finished use a stiff brush or power-bush and brush against the pile direction of the grass, this will lift the grass fibres. Over time, with regular grooming, any creases or flattened areas will disappear.

### Sand Infill?

Grass King artificial grass does not require sand infill, our grass has thick thatching which supports the main grass fibres, if you wish you can add kiln dried sand at approximately 4kg per square metre, this should be carried out on a dry day. Use a 'weed free' kiln dried sand and brush in against the pile.

#### **Advantages:**

- Adding kiln dried sand can help regulate the temperature of the grass on very hot days.
- Gives extra support to the grass fibres in heavy footfall areas, eg where steps or stairs meet the lawn.
- Can offer some protection from sharp objects, garden furniture, play equipment...
- Adds ballast – weights the grass down allowing the grass to follow the contours of an uneven surface.

#### **Disadvantages:**

- Can attract surface weed growth from airborne sources.