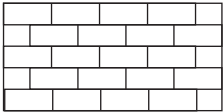


UNCLE'S GUIDE TO AN INSTANT LAWN



Proper Pattern
for Laying Sod



Preparation: Leveling, tilling, fertilizing and soil moisture are important factors for your sod's success. Sod should be installed on smooth, even ground. The ground should be bare, firm and free of rocks and dips. Soil amendments such as gypsum, for clay soils, should be applied at this time.

Installing: Sod rolls should be unrolled green side up and placed tightly together with the seams staggered (*see illustration*). The outermost edges of the sod should not be exposed, cover them with soil or place them at ground level. Sod staples may be necessary on steep slopes. The staples should be driven into the sod on the top edge of the sod after it has been rolled out.

Uncle's tip on sod:

Prepare your site before purchasing your sod and only buy what can be installed within one day. In warm weather, sod begins to heat up in the roll as soon as it is cut from the field. The better the sod, the sooner it begins to heat up. The sooner sod is installed after cutting the better.

Fertilizing: Sod must be fertilized at installation. Apply **LOVELAND GOLF COURSE STARTER** or **RENOVATOR** at time of installation. Re-apply 4 weeks later.



Crabgrass Control For Spring Sod Installation: (March - June) Apply **LOVELAND GOLF COURSE STARTER** or **RENOVATOR** at time of installation. Two weeks later, apply **PREVENT!** crabgrass pre-emergent **over the top** of new sod. **PREVENT!** will suppress crabgrass, foxtail and other ugly grassy weeds in the seams and cracks between the rolls. If your confused on which to use, just ask someone in a green shirt. Our green shirt team will help you build a plan to fit your specific needs.

Watering Fresh Sod: The most important step in any successful sod job. Fresh sod must be watered at once and kept spongy wet continually for the first two weeks. Homeowners should plan to water sod at least twice a day for one hour at a setting during the hottest part of the day.

How much water is enough? Sod should be spongy wet to the degree you could not walk on it with barefeet without it squishing between your toes. Too much water will never be an issue for sod in the first two weeks. On hot windy days, sod can dry out in an hour. When temperatures are above 80° after installation, sod must be kept continually wet for the first month.

Uncle's tip on sod: **"Sod is guaranteed to die if you don't water it!"**

Mowing: After installation the grass blades will be horizontal. With proper watering, in 10 to 14 days, your sod will begin to stand up. Mow sod as often as needed with a sharp blade and mower on the highest setting during a time the sod is moist, yet firm to walk on. Water sod immediately after mowing.

