

Installation Process

ForeverLawn recommends a 10-step process for installing the ForeverLawn product to ensure that your installation meets the highest standard of quality. Although there are always some nuances with each installation, following process outlined here is a guideline for creating a beautiful yard.

1) Ground Clearing

The first step in the installation process is to clear the ground of any covering or debris. A clear base is vital to the long-term quality of our installations. For existing lawns, this may include removal of sod, rocks, gravel, etc. Although new construction installations will not require the same time commitment during this phase, care should be taken to ensure that the ground is clear of any remaining construction debris, or obstructions.

2) Base Height

The second step in the installation process is to ensure that the installed product will be at the desired finish grade. This requires that the initial base be at approximately 3" to 4" below finish grade. Depending on the current conditions, remove any excess soil, or bring in clean fill dirt at this time.

3) Gravel Sub-base

Next, install 1/4" minus crusher fine gravel or decomposed granite to create a stabilized sub-base. The crushed gravel should be brought in and spread to create a base approximately 3" thick. The gravel sub base is used to give a solid base for the product while still allowing for drainage.

4) Grading

Now the crusher fine needs to be graded (typically with wide contractor rakes) to adjust the contour to meet drainage requirements as well as personal desires. This step allows you to determine the exact finish level of the grass, as well as prevent any areas of water build-up or improper drainage.

5) Compacting the base

Use a plate tamper to compact the base. Lightly spray water over the gravel prior to tamping to ensure proper compaction and reduce dust. The goal of this step is to reach 90%-95% compaction. This typically takes 2-3 passes. Let the compacted crushed gravel sub-base dry and check for inconsistencies prior to proceeding. If necessary, adjust the gravel level and repeat the compaction.

6) ForeverLawn Layout

Determine how best to lay out the ForeverLawn turf rolls. ForeverLawn comes in 15' wide rolls. Due to the natural direction of the grass blades, the turf must all be laid out in the same direction. Therefore, it is very important that this layout is thoroughly thought out before cutting begins.

7) Cutting the Grass

This phase is where the turf is trimmed to fit your yard. The product can be cut around your existing landscape whether it is a perfect square, or a winding path that is bordered by rocks. The best method is to lay the grass out and mark the back of the grass with a sharpie pen where you want the cut. Then roll the grass over and cut it with a sharp utility knife. Be careful not to cut through any grass that might be lying underneath.

8) Securing and Seaming

Secure the turf by staking the edges with 6" galvanized landscape spikes. The spikes should be inserted through the turf and into the base at 6" intervals around the edges. (These spikes can be purchased at your local hardware or home improvement store.) Once installed, the seams (where two pieces of ForeverLawn are joined to create widths greater than 15 feet) are virtually invisible and very durable. Much of that is due to the seaming process implemented by ForeverLawn. We use our new, proprietary micro-mechanical bonding system. No glue is required and the bond will last as long as the product. This eliminates the seam failure you are likely to have with glue over the next 10 years and beyond.

When doing seams, it is imperative to have a straight cut along the rows of grass, not crossing over the blades. Since the rows cannot be seen from behind, we recommend a carpet tool called a Crain 303 Loop Pile Carpet cutter to cut the rows where seams are required. It is also imperative to make sure that the grass is always going in the same direction.

Once the seam is lined up, place a couple spikes away from the seam on either side to hold the grass from moving. Then roll the grass edges away from the seam, place the seam tape down and then roll the grass back into place. Put the side with the blades pointing away from the seam down first.

Once lined up and properly in place, you will want to tamp the seam with a hand tamper or roll the seam to insure proper adhesion of the mechanical bond. We will sometimes anchor both sides of the seam with spikes to make sure kids don't are not able to pull it up.

9) Rubber Infill

Spread out approximately 1 pound per square foot of the cracker-mill over the turf. Work this into the base of the grass blades using a stiff bristled push broom and/or plastic leaf rake. If available, you may want to rent a motorized power broom from an equipment rental store. The all rubber infill stands the grass blades up and cushions the product. No sand infill is needed as our product has a dimensionally stable backing. When sand is used, it is primarily to act as a ballast to support the grass. Our reinforced backing eliminates that need and enables us to use 100% rubber; which is less abrasive and softer.

10) Clean-up

No job would be complete without the proper clean up. You can use a blower, rake, brush or broom to clean up the grass, as well as water.