

# Maintaining Your Artificial Grass

Artificial grass needs to be maintained on a regular basis to look and perform at an optimum level. There is a perception that artificial grass is maintenance free, but the reality is they require less maintenance than natural grass.

A crucial tip for maintaining your artificial grass is to do a little, often, rather than neglecting the lawn for a few months and being faced with a major maintenance program to restore your artificial grass to its optimum condition.

## SETTLEMENT

It will take 2-3 months for your new artificial grass to settle and reach its optimum condition. During this period the infill materials penetrate the fibre pile and settle into the turf structure. Light grooming using a medium soft bristle brush on a regular basis will help the pile remain upright, aid infill settlement and promote the life of the installation.

## BRUSHING

The main reason for brushing is to stimulate the top fibres of your artificial grass, aiding them to remain vertical. We recommend light brushing at least once every month and actioned in a number of alternate directions.

Some infill may appear on the top of your artificial grass from time to time, but this only requires light brushing to restore it to the turf structure.

## DEBRIS

Debris should be removed from your artificial grass on a regular basis to prevent organic matter building up in the turf structure. We recommend debris removal at least once every week and can be actioned with a leaf rake and shovel, leaf collecting device such as Aussie Clean Sweep or a mechanical blower. Debris build-up may affect the drainage capabilities of your artificial grass system and encourage weed growth.

## ANIMAL FAECES

Animal faeces should be removed manually from your artificial grass as soon as you find it and the area washed down with a warm soapy solution such as household washing up liquid. The faeces will not damage your artificial grass but will work its way into the artificial grass structure. The longer it is left the harder it will be to clean out.

## TREATMENT

If you follow the foregoing recommendation for debris removal you will dramatically reduce the chances of moss / algae and weeds forming on or in your artificial grass. We recommend moss / weed killing should take place once a year with water-based systemic weed killer:

- **Weeds:** Simazine: is a herbicide of the triazine class. The compound is used to control broad leaf weeds and annual grasses.
- **Moss/Agae:** Wet and Forget: It has a unique combination of biodegradable selective surfactants for moss removal, mould removal and gunge removal on any exterior surface.

Please remember to remove all dead matter including roots and sweep debris out of the turf structure.

## STAIN REMOVAL

Most stains can be removed from your artificial grass with warm soapy water, household grade detergent such as washing up liquid, and "elbow grease"!

Heavy oil marks are removed using mineral spirits and a cloth; remembering to wash down the cleaned area with water to dilute the spirit residue.

## BURNS

For superficial burns in your artificial grass, carefully clip the pile with scissors just below the blackened or melted tips. For large deep burns you may need to replace that section of artificial grass therefore we recommend that you contact your local installer for professional care.

## TAKE CARE

You should avoid using / taking the following items onto your artificial grass:



**Glass, tin or ceramics:** broken sharp objects can bury themselves into the turf structure and potentially cause injury or damage your artificial grass.



**Cigarettes or hot works:** although your artificial grass has a fire safety rating, open flames and hot items may melt the fibre pile.



**Chewing gum:** again this can be removed by freezing the gum and chipping it off the surface, but it is strongly recommended to avoid this situation.

## VEHICLES

Only light vehicles under 1-ton, fitted with wide, low-pressure tyres (8 to 10psi) should be allowed on your artificial grass.

