



Caring for a newly installed plants

- The first few weeks after plants have been installed, make sure to water daily to keep the soil consistently moist. After that, continue watering regularly, but reduce the frequency to a few times a week, depending on the weather. It is very important that you continue to water your plants until the ground freezes.
- When watering, the best practice is to water slowly and deeply, which allows the water to penetrate all the way down to the roots. You can check the soil moisture by digging your fingers a few inches into the ground; it should feel moist, not dry or soggy.

Caring for newly installed sod

- Keep the sod moist but not saturated until it is firmly rooted in the soil, then gradually reduce watering. Usually, this can be accomplished by watering twice a day, but if it is extremely hot and/or windy you may have to water more. Your soil type will also dictate how much water is needed. If you have heavy, clay soil, you can water less than if you have sandy, light soil.
- After about 10 to 14 days perform a “tug test” by gently tugging the sod in a few areas to make sure that it has firmly rooted into the soil. If the sod has resistance, it is rooted in. At this point you can reduce the amount of water to once a day or every other day, depending on the weather. You can also start to mow your new lawn.

Caring for a newly seeded lawn

- After seeding be sure to water the area thoroughly to ensure the soil is moist, but not waterlogged. During the first 2-3 weeks, water lightly and frequently (2-4 times a day, depending on the weather) to keep the top inch of soil moist. If water starts to pool, this is a sign that you’re watering too much.
- As your grass starts to grow, reduce the watering frequency but increase the duration of each watering to encourage deeper root growth. If you have a large area that's been seeded and your lawn is not irrigated, a [rain train](#) is very useful.
- It is best to avoid walking on the newly seeded area for 2-3 weeks to give the grass time to establish itself. Once the grass has a seed head, you can start mowing your new grass.