

## Keeping Your Artificial Grass Looking Its Best: A Simple Guide

We're delighted you've chosen artificial grass! To ensure you enjoy its beauty and longevity for years to come, a little routine care is all it takes. While artificial turf is wonderfully low-maintenance, it's not entirely maintenance-free. Think of it as a beautiful garden that needs a little gentle tending to stay vibrant.

### 1. Keeping it Clean: A Breeze!

- **Regular Debris Removal:**
  - Keep your grass clear of leaves and other debris. A leaf blower or a plastic rake makes this quick and easy.
  - To prevent weeds from taking root, we recommend regularly sweeping your grass with a stiff broom against the pile, or gently raking with a plastic rake. This helps to lift the fibres and discourage seed germination. This should be carried out every 4-6 weeks.
  - If any weeds do appear, remove them promptly to prevent them from spreading.
  
- **Cleaning Spills and Stains:**
  - **Light Soiling:** For minor spills, a 5% solution of household detergent in warm water, followed by a thorough rinse with warm water, will do the trick.
  - **Heavy Soiling:** For more stubborn stains, repeat the above step, then use a 3% solution of household ammonia in warm water, followed by a thorough rinse with warm water.
  - **Quick Action is Key:** Fresh spills are always easier to clean than dried ones.
  - **Solid Spills:** Remove any solid or paste-like deposits with a spatula or table knife.
  - **Liquid Spills:** Blot up excess liquids with paper towels, a clean cloth, or a dry absorbent. Dry absorbents can be swept or vacuumed up afterward.
  
- **Choosing the Right Cleaners:**
  - Some cleaners are safe for the fibres but may affect other parts of your turf system. Therefore, we've categorized cleaners into two groups:
    - **Group 1 (Safe for Direct Application):**
      - A warm, mild solution of household detergent is perfect for most water-based stains (coffee, ketchup, tea, milk, cola, fizzy drinks, ice cream, blood).
      - A 3% solution of ammonia in water can be used for more stubborn stains.
      - **Important:** Avoid cleaners containing chlorine bleach or highly acidic substances (pH < 5).

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- Always rinse the area thoroughly with clean, cold water to remove any cleaning residue
- **Group 2 (Use Sparingly):**
  - Mineral spirits or grease spot removers (like perchloroethylene) are suitable for oil-based stains (cooking oil, motor oil, shoe polish, floor wax).
  - **Caution:** Mineral spirits and other petroleum-based solvents are flammable. Ensure good ventilation when using them.
- **Special Cleaning Needs:**
  - **Pet Excrement:** Remove solids with a shovel, and clean the area with detergent and water.
  - **Chewing Gum:** Freeze it with an aerosol refrigerant (available from carpet cleaning suppliers) or dry ice, then scrape it off with a knife.
  - **Fungus or Mold:** Sponge the affected area with a 1% solution of hydrogen peroxide in water, then rinse thoroughly with clean water. #

## 2. Brushing: Keeping Your Grass Upright and Lively

- Use a stiff brush to straighten the fibers. (Every 4 to 6 weeks)
- Areas with high foot traffic may experience flattening.
- "Cross brushing" (brushing against the grain) can help restore the grass's natural appearance.
- Use a brush with synthetic bristles; never use metal bristles, as they can damage the fibers.

## 3. Gentle Care: Avoiding Damage

- **Heat:** Avoid contact with hot materials or close proximity to glass structures to prevent fiber shrinkage.
- **Sharp Objects:** Furniture with sharp edges can puncture or tear the artificial grass.
- **Cigarettes:** While they won't ignite the turf, lighted cigarettes can fuse the fiber tips together, causing damage.
- **No Chewing Gum or Adhesives**
- **Never:** place hot machinery such as hedge trimmers on the grass

## 4. 10 Year warranty

In order to maintain your 10-year supply and installation warranty, Eternal Lawns & Landscapes is required to conduct annual maintenance. This service is designed to verify that your artificial grass is being maintained in accordance with the recommendations outlined in this document. The maintenance will include brushing, weed removal, and the application of a pet-friendly disinfectant and deodorizer. The cost is based on the number of SQM's.