

# Understanding & Installing **Luxigraze**

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# Welcome

This booklet has been produced as a guide to the properties and characteristics of artificial grass products. We hope this will help our retailers, customer's and end users to better understand, install, use and enjoy our artificial grass landscaping products.

# History of Artificial Grass

Artificial grass was initially created in the early 1960's, however it first gained substantial attention in 1966, when it was installed in the year-old Astrodome – America's first indoor, major-league baseball stadium in Houston, Texas. The state-of-the-art venue had initially attempted to use natural grass, however ground conditions and repeated use, together with lack of sunlight from the semi-transparent Lucite ceiling panels, meant that the grass quickly died. As a temporary measure the dead grass and dirt were painted green!

A team of researchers working on behalf of the Ford foundation had just created the first notable artificial turf and thankfully it proved perfect for the job. The team was run by David Chaney, Head of Research at the textile company Chemstrand, working alongside Research Triangle Park. The specific product used had a very short pile and was initially marketed as "ChemGrass", developed by Monsanto, but quickly became known as and re-branded to 'AstroTurf' due to its association with the innovative sporting venue; this term since then became a generic trademark for any artificial grass throughout the late 20th century.

To this day, many people innocently refer to artificial grass as "AstroTurf". In simple terms Astro Turf is just a brand of Artificial Grass. Similar to people referring to a vacuum cleaner as a Hoover; Hoover were the first to bring that product to the mass market.

The use of artificial turf and similar surfaces became widespread in the U.S. and Canada in the early 1970s, installed in both indoor and outdoor stadiums, used for baseball and American football, and continues to this day in sporting venues around the world.

The term Artificial Turf is generally used when synthetic grass is utilised within a sports environment, whereas the term Artificial Grass being used when synthetic grass is used in a more domestic environment. The synthetic surface in each case are basically the same, but each specific use takes the underlying technology & modifies its characteristics to best suit its intended use. Artificial turf used in sporting environments tends to be a lot more durable, less aesthetic and less dense to allow for differing crumbs and infill's to make up the rest of its composition (this technology is now described as 3G or third generation). Whereas artificial grass for domestic use tends to focus on the aesthetic to replicate the appearance of natural grass. While still being more durable than natural grass, artificial grass is more suited to the domestic garden and outdoor environment.

Since the early 1990s, the use of synthetic grass has moved rapidly beyond sports fields to residential and commercial landscaping and has now been widely accepted. This trend has been driven by the dramatic improvement in the quality and variety of available yarns, advances in technology, the reduced cost of maintenance and care compared to natural grass, and the many other benefits it offers.

As one of the leading suppliers of artificial grass products, we have produced this document to explain the benefits of artificial grass, why it is the best choice for your landscaping project and how to install and maintain your artificial grass, to create a safe outdoor environment, all year round.



# Manufacture of Artificial Grass

In simple terms artificial grass is an outdoor carpet that is manufactured to simulate the look & feel of natural grass. The process of making artificial grass follows these simple steps:

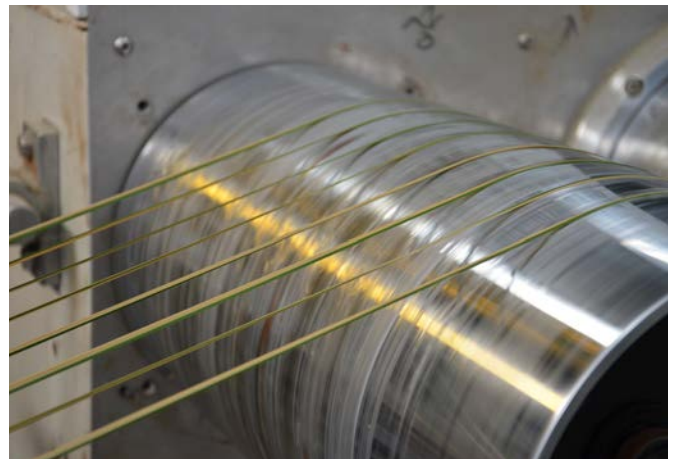
## Step 1 - Yarn Extrusion

Artificial grass is made from long strands of synthetic fibres called yarn, produced from two different types of polymers: polyethylene and propylene.

Firstly, the resin pellets are melted down, in a hopper machine, then colours and chemicals are applied, to provide its signature green shade, with full UV protection. As these features are built-in to the turf; they do not fade or wash away over time. This mix is poured into a large steel mixture that stirs the liquid until it has thickened. The liquid mixture is then placed through an extruder, under high pressure and temperature, where it is moulded into long thin fibres, which mimic real blades of grass.



The formed strands are then put onto a carding machine and rotated onto a loose rope. The loose rope is then woven into a tighter yarn, which is set through being heated. This process of melting the resins to create the yarn is called extrusion.



## Step 2 - Tufting

Bobbins of yarn go into a creel and from the creel, each individual end of yarn goes into a tube and through a series of rollers, designed to make the tension equal across the whole creel. These large spools of yarn are then fed through a tufting machine, where a series of needles pierce the backing and feed the yarn into the loop. At the bottom of the stroke the needles are met by what is known as the hook. The yarn wraps around the hook and is cut by a blade forming a tuft, before returning to the top position to start again. This continuous process turns the yarn into a carpet of artificial grass.



## Step 3 - Coating

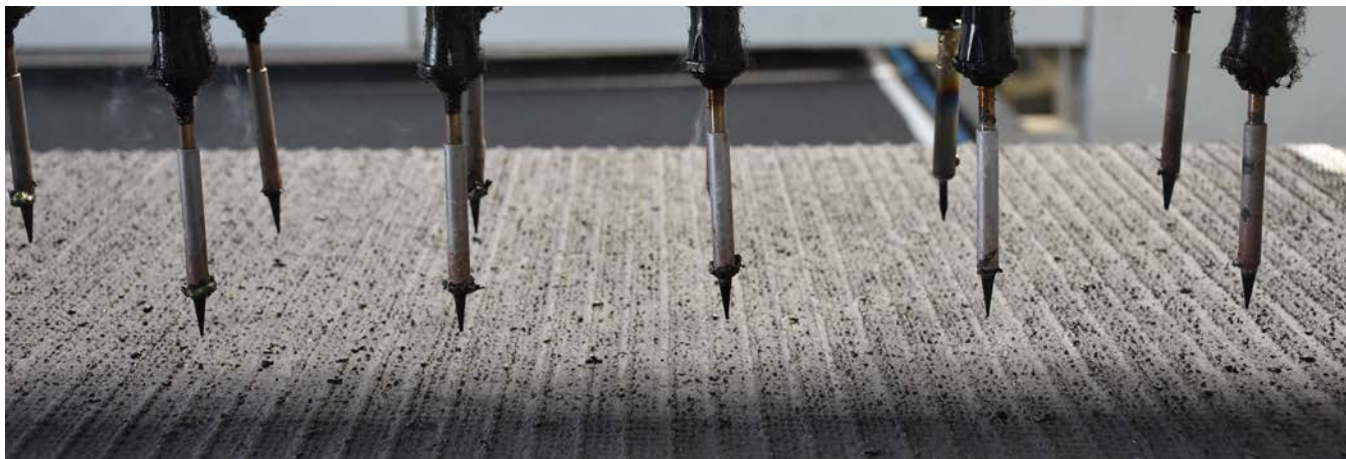
The tufted artificial grass is threaded through the backing line and a coating of latex is applied to the underside of the backing. The carpet is then fed through a drying oven which cures the latex. This prevents any tufts from falling out.





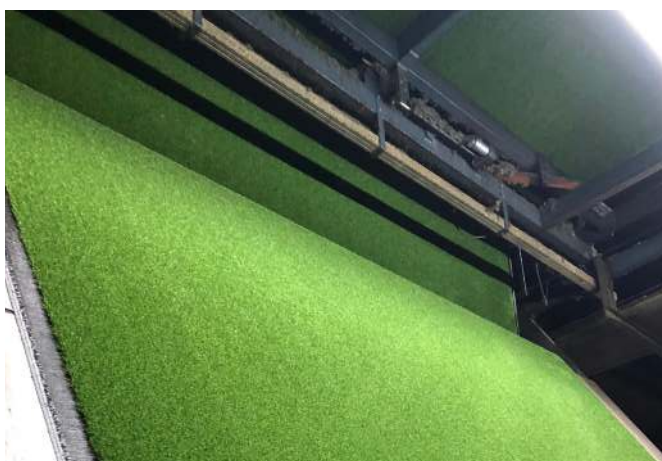
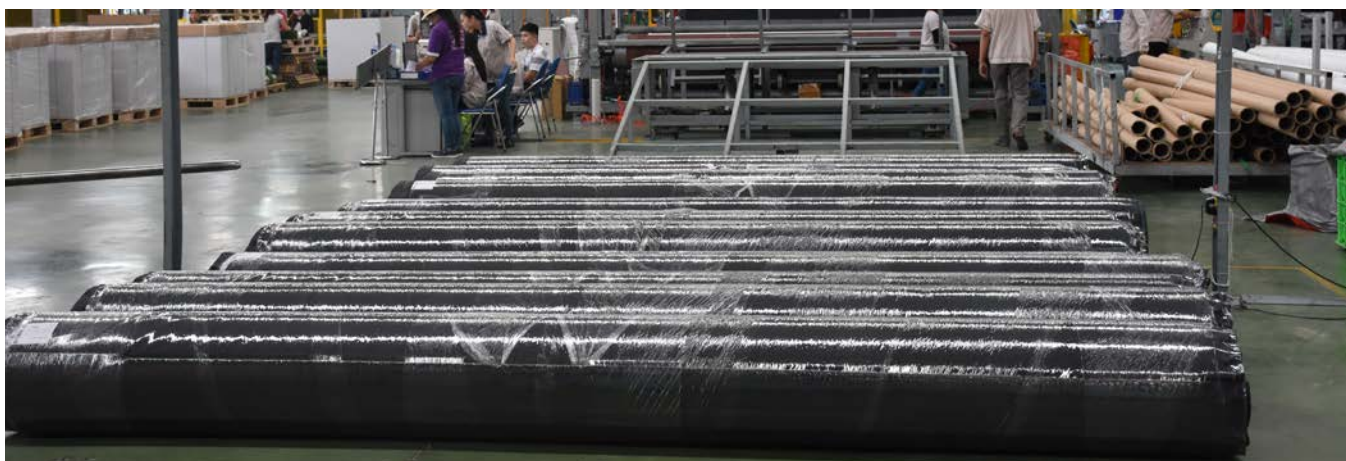
## Step 4 - Perforation

Once the latex has dried, drainage holes are punched into the backing, to meet industry standards. This allows the rain water to drain through the surface and into the ground below. It is these perforations that prevent the build-up of surface water on artificial grass.



## Step 5 - Packaging

Finally, the artificial grass goes through an inspection table and onto a rolling system, where they are cut into 25m rolls, rolled around a centre tube and packaged and ready for storage or transportation.



# Benefits of Luxigraze

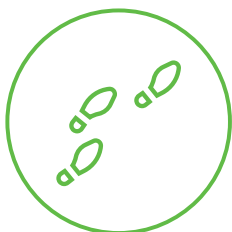
With the obvious advantages of being extremely low maintenance, no need for mowing & always maintaining that just mowed look, artificial grass allows designers and homeowners to create an ideal solution for those who want the perfect lawn, but without the expense & work involved in maintaining a natural grass lawn. Artificial grass is ultra-realistic, providing a natural look and feel, whilst offering many other associated benefits:

- The versatility of artificial grass allows it to be used in a wide variety of applications, to improve the look of any outdoor space, including shady areas where real turf struggles to thrive or grow.
- Artificial grass offers a child and pet friendly lawn, which is soft and lush underfoot. Unlike a natural lawn, artificial grass will look great all year round, without muddy patches and a trail of muddy footprints! Artificial grass is extremely robust and will cope with even the most playful and demanding of children and pets.
- Providing a durable and low maintenance solution, saving on time and up-keep costs.
- Artificial grass is extremely hard-wearing, long lasting and should withstand regular use, even in areas of high traffic. The majority of artificial grasses provide a 15-20 year lifespan, in addition to being UV stabilised and fade resistant, meaning that it won't fade or discolour when exposed to direct sunlight, and will stay green all year round.
- Artificial grass is highly permeable. In most cases, it actually drains more efficiently than natural grass, and it dries out quicker, too.

Quality manufacturing, continuing technological developments and the environmental benefits, ensure that artificial grass is a top choice when planning a garden project. This valuable, cost-effective alternative to natural turf, creates a safe outdoor environment, for all the family, all year round.



**No Watering**



**No Mud**



**No Mowing**



**Child Safe**



**Pet Safe**



# Choosing Artificial Grass

With such a wide range of artificial grasses available, making the correct choice is extremely important. Please see below some helpful information, to provide an insight into exactly what goes into manufacturing artificial grass. This should give the knowledge required to make an informed decision into purchasing an artificial grass which will look fabulous for many years.

## Pile Height

Pile height refers to the length of the grass blades and artificial grass comes in a variety of pile heights. Choosing the pile height is usually a matter of taste. For those that like the look of freshly cut grass, anything between 20-30mm is a good choice. For a natural looking lawn, we recommend choosing a pile height between 30-40mm, to provide a lush and luscious look. Any pile height higher than this there is a risk of the grass lying flat as the longer grass blades will be heavier and it will be more than likely that gravity will pull the fibres down.

## Pile Density

The greater the pile density, the more resilient it will be. This is because the fibres will be able to support each other better & recover more easily from the pressure of foot traffic and heavy objects. Pile density also affects how your lawn will look too. The denser the pile, the lusher the grass will look, whereas a low pile density product can look sparse and thin.



27 Super Luxury



Competitor 30mm

**What is Gauge?** - The distance between the 2 adjacent lines, stitched to the backing, measured in fractions of an inch. If the distance between these 2 lines was large, the product would look extremely poor quality.

**What is Stitch Rate?** - Measures the number of stitches per square metre of grass.

27 Super Luxury has more stitches down the length & a narrower gauge, making it a denser product



27 Super Luxury

Competitor 30mm



27 Super Luxury

Competitor 30mm

The combination of Gauge & Stitch Rate is what gives us the density of the grass and in simple terms the higher the density of the grass the better the quality. Premium quality artificial grass tends to have a density of at least 17000 stitches per metre. Cheap artificial grass tends to have lower densities of around 6000 stitches per metre.



27 Super Luxury



Competitor 30mm

## Fibres

Fibre Thickness (also known as Decitex, abbreviated as Dtex) refers to the thickness of each individual strand of artificial grass. This is a unit of measurement that indicates the linear mass of yarn in grams, per 10,000 metres. Fibre thickness is an important indicator of fibre strength. The thicker the fibre, the greater the resistance and durability. Therefore, a sports pitch, for example, would require a higher Dtex rating, as it will be subject to more regular, intensive use.

Inferior artificial grasses tend to have thin fibres. The thinner the fibre, the less raw material is needed to manufacture the artificial grass, therefore reducing production costs. However, thin fibres have a lower resilience and quickly break down, resulting in a flat unrealistic lawn.

## Composition of yarn

There are three different types of plastic used to make artificial grass – polyethylene, polypropylene and nylon (polyamide), with each having various strengths and weaknesses.

- **Polyethylene** –long-lasting and gentle on the skin.
- **Polypropylene** –long-lasting and resilient but harsher.
- **Nylon** – very robust and often used in products such as golf driving mats, due to its high burn tolerance. A more abrasive fibre, but also more expensive.

Most artificial grasses, for domestic and commercial applications, contain a mixture of polyethylene mono-filament and polypropylene curly yarn. This combination provides an artificial grass which is durable, realistic, and dense.



# Weight

A good quality artificial grass will have a weight of at least 2 kg/sq.metre, as they are likely to be more wear resistant and have a longer lifespan.

# Backing Strength

The backing material consist of primary and secondary layers. The primary layer is a fabric, typically made from polypropylene, into which the artificial grass fibres are woven. The secondary backing usually consists of latex and acts as the glue that holds the artificial grass together.

It is vital that your chosen artificial grass is manufactured with a good quality backing, as it holds together the entire lawn. One way in which some competitors cut costs is by reducing the amount of latex they use in their backing. Whilst this can provide a cheaper product, it increases the likelihood of separation of the yarn from the backing material, causing the fibres to become thin and matted, resulting in a failed lawn.

# Colour

Colour choice is entirely dependent upon personal preference and there are a vast range of colour combinations to select from. It is recommended to select a product with the multiple shades of green, and a brown "thatch" or "rootzone", to give it extra support and replicate the look of artificial grass. Products which are too perfectly green will not look as realistic.

# UV Resistant

Ensure the products are fully UV Stable, to prevent colour fade, and come with a UV Guarantee.

Luxigraze is supplied with a 10 year UV Guarantee.

# Fire Resistant

When selecting an artificial grass product, it is important to check it is fire-resistant, to be reassured that flames will not spread via your artificial lawn.

Luxigraze products are rated as either Cfl-s1 or Efl-s1, for peace of mind.

**In conclusion, all of the above points should now explain why factors, other than just pile height, must be considered, when selecting a quality artificial grass, which should last long into the future.**

**For product specifications – please refer to [www.luxigraze.co.uk](http://www.luxigraze.co.uk)**



# Environmental Benefits of Artificial Grass

Environmental considerations play an important role in the decision to use artificial grass. It can be argued that artificial grass is kind on the environment and can potentially help you to reduce your carbon footprint, due to the design, which requires little maintenance.

## Our Environmental Commitment

With an increased commitment in sustainability, and in order to tackle climate change, Luxigraze 35 Recyclable has been added to the range to offer an eco -friendly product which is 100% recyclable. Advances in technology mean its now possible to recycle artificial grass.



# Dramatically Reduces Water Use (No Water)

Colour choice is entirely dependent upon personal preference and there are a vast range of colour combinations to select from. It is recommended to select a product with the multiple shades of green, and a brown "thatch" or "rootzone", to give it extra support and replicate the look of artificial grass. Products which are too perfectly green will not look as realistic.

## No Pesticides and Fertilisers

Installing artificial grass means no more mowing and chemicals in the garden, as there is no need to use pesticides or fertiliser for natural grass upkeep, which can be harmful to the environment.

Since artificial grass needs no regular chemical treatment, like these, it eliminates a major source of groundwater pollution and human exposure, many of which can be harmful when ingested by animals and detrimental to plant life, your lawn and the surrounding area.

For residential applications, an artificial lawn also offers the benefit of reducing the amount of chemicals (and dirt) tracked into homes.

## No Mowing

Clearly, artificial grass does not grow and therefore does not need to be mowed with an electric mower. This results in zero energy costs and zero harmful emissions. There are also no grass clippings, which produce methane and require disposal to landfill sites.

## Safe For People and the Environment

Artificial grass is often less toxic than chemically treated natural grass. Heavy metals, lead and cadmium are not detected in yarns used to manufacture Luxigraze Artificial Grass, making them entirely safe for both people and the environment. As a result, there are no dangers known by having artificial grass in your garden. (Note: Not all competitor artificial grasses are free from heavy metals).

## Wildlife Habitats

It is recommended that every effort is made to preserve the natural habitats of insects and wildlife with artificial grass, by installing around existing bushes and trees to prevent them from being removed, and encouraging keeping existing flower beds and borders or creating new ones as part of your installation. With the artificial grass fibres being so lush and dense, insects can still happily live in between them, allowing them to thrive, without coming into contact with mower blades.



# Helping you make the most of your Luxigraze Products

Should you select Luxigraze Artificial Grass, this next section highlights considerations to make when placing your order through to making the most of your new artificial grass area.





# Things to consider when placing your order for Artificial Grass

Colour choice is entirely dependent upon personal preference and there are a vast range of colour combinations to select from. It is recommended to select a product with the multiple shades of green, and a brown "thatch" or "rootzone", to give it extra support and replicate the look of real grass. Products which are too perfectly green will not look as realistic.

- It is recommended you order samples before making any purchase decision, so you can see and handle the product. Buying from photos, catalogues or websites is not advised unless you have previous experience with the product, as you cannot rely in internet pictures to get a true indication of the colour, quality and overall look of your chosen grass.
- Place your sample outside, where the artificial grass will be laid, as different lighting conditions will make the product appear different in colour. It may give you a chance to compare to your natural lawn, as many people prefer to choose a colour that most resembles their current lawn. Also, it may be worth going into your garden at different times of the day, to see how the sunlight makes it look. Make sure that the pile is facing the house or the main viewing point, as this is how your lawn will be installed and will make a difference to the overall look.
- It is recommended that you visit a local stockist of Luxigraze Artificial Grass products to see the artificial grass installed, on display, where possible. [Link to stockist search](#) OR view as large an area as possible of your chosen product before purchasing to ensure you are happy with your choice.
- Consider the choice of product and pile height and take into consideration the application and people who will be using the area. For example, if installing on balconies and roof gardens, a shorter pile may be more suited.
- Measure the area you want to cover with Artificial Grass. Luxigraze Artificial Grasses are supplied in 2m and 4m widths, cut to your required length (to the nearest 10cm) up to 25m. Minimum order is 1m length.
- All artificial grasses have a directional pile, which needs to be taken into consideration when planning and installing. It is recommended, where possible, the grass pile faces towards the house or main viewpoint, as the grass will look more natural when looking into the pile. When installing more than one piece of artificial grass, ensure each piece of grass is facing the same direction, to form an invisible join.
- Calculate your requirements, considering any joins and fixing methods. Remember, for every 3m jointing tape we recommend 1 cartridge of adhesive. However, for smaller joins, we can supply Self Adhesive Jointing Tape. We recommend you order an extra 10% on each piece of artificial grass to allow for cutting and measuring errors, as well as trimming joints.
- Ensure you order enough of the product to cover the entire area, as colour can vary with different batches. Each order will be supplied with the same batch of artificial grass, to ensure colour consistency. However, please be aware that if you place an additional order more, at a later date, there could be a slight colour variation.

- Products being delivered direct to site/homeowners will usually be delivered kerbside from our merchants. It is important that the driver has easy access at the delivery site. Please note that the site contact/homeowner is responsible for moving the grass into a safe location, so you will need to consider how the products will be moved to the project area.
- Please be aware the handling of the artificial grass is very heavy and the roll(s) cannot be bent, as this will damage the product.
- We are continually improving our products and their supply. Talasey reserve the right to vary specifications, without notice. Please note, the final product supplied may differ slightly to your sample, due to production and batching variables.
- After you have unpacked the product, consider the environment and recycle the packaging, which could include cardboard centre tubes, plastic bungs and plastic wrapping.

# Health & Safety

Due to the nature of artificial grass, when rolled, many products in the Luxigraze range are heavy or awkward in shape to lift. We recommend that when moving pieces over 25kg, more than one person helps in completing the lift, or that suitable lifting and transporting equipment is used.

Additionally, we would also recommend that the following should be worn:



**Strong gloves** - for protection against cuts, with a Stanley knife.



**Knee pads** - due to kneeling for long periods of time, they will provide cushioning and support for joints, as well as offering protection.



**Eye Protection, Face Protection & Protective Clothing** - to be used when applying Luxigraze Adhesive and Cleaners, as it can be irritating to the eyes, respiratory system and the skin. Ensure the area is well-ventilated.



**Safety boots with steel toe caps and piece resistant sole** - provides safety against potential compression, heavy falling objects and punctures from sharp objects.



**Ear defenders** - reduces the noise exposure level, when using the turf cutter and/or wacker plate.

Training may be needed to operate certain equipment; it is your responsibility to ensure this takes place where necessary. It is your responsibility to ensure that you comply with all applicable health and safety legislation and guidelines.

For further information on Health & Safety, please visit the Knowledge Hub on [www.luxigraze.co.uk](http://www.luxigraze.co.uk)







# Receiving Your Luxigraze

We have a large network of stockists from whom you can purchase our Luxigraze ranges. To find your nearest stockist, please visit [www.luxigraze.co.uk](http://www.luxigraze.co.uk). Please take care when lifting, handling, delivering and storing rolls of artificial grass.



# Lifting Using A Forklift

Where possible, we strongly recommend using a carpet boom for loading/unloading rolls with a forklift. If you do have to use a forklift to handle rolls of grass, ensure that you place a ply-board across the forks and roll the grass carefully onto this board. Do not place the roll directly onto the forks, or attempt to slide the forks under the roll, as this may pierce the packaging and cause damage to the grass. Under no circumstances, should a fork be inserted into the centre of the cardboard tube. This will pierce the cardboard centre tube and go through the artificial grass.

## Van Loading

When you are loading the roll of grass onto the back of a vehicle, we would advise it is laid flat and does not overhang or rest at an angle, as the roll will not be supported. This could cause a bend in the roll which may result in lines, ripples & stretching appearing along your grass.

## Delivery

The rolls of grass can be extremely heavy and bulky. Consider this when arranging delivery, as you may need appropriate equipment, or an extra pair of hands.

Luxigraze offers a Nationwide delivery service and, depending on weight of the rolls, there are two transport companies subcontracted to deliver the artificial grass. A National Courier Service deliver Luxigraze rolls which are under 70kg each and offer a 2-3 day delivery service. All items are offloaded by hand.

However, for orders containing rolls over 70kg, we use a specialist carpet courier. They only transport rolls of carpet and artificial grass, so are stacking safely and have the lifting equipment on their vehicles e.g a winch to be able to offload the heavy rolls. Delivery on this service is quoted as 5-7 working days, which needs to be taken into consideration when planning for the installation and ordering materials. Please note, this courier is not able to deliver to private addresses, for all areas, so please check first.

Alternatively, if a timed or next day delivery is required, we can offer this service, at an extra charge, providing a dedicated delivery direct to site or to branch. We are unable to offer a winch offload service for timed deliveries, therefore, rolls would need to be offloaded by hand or carefully using a forklift, or other offloading facility.

You may also receive delivery, from your local merchant or stockist, who will liaise with you regarding the delivery dates and method of delivery.

All deliveries are kerbside only. Once you receive your delivery of artificial grass, please ensure you check the packaging is undamaged before signing. Do not sign for the artificial grass if you feel it has been bent or damaged in any way, and report immediately. If you provide the driver with a signature, you are accepting the goods have been delivered in perfect condition and we will not be able to support a claim, on your behalf, for damages.

If you are not satisfied with any aspect of your product, do not install it, and report to your supplier immediately. Talasey will not accept liability, or costs for apparent defects, once the product has been installed.

**Delivery arrangements advised correct at time of publishing this advice. Check with your supplier.**

# Handling

Before you can start fitting your Luxigraze artificial grass you need to be aware of how to correctly handle it to minimise damage. Handle with care and always carry rolls between two people. Carrying the roll too far towards the ends can cause the roll to bend, and centre tube to break, resulting in damage to the grass.

Place the rolls down carefully and do not dump. Take care to avoid sharp objects and structures, such as brick wall corners. Ensure the rolls of artificial grass are placed on a flat, even ground when opening the packaging. Be careful not to damage the grass with sharp objects when removing packaging.

After you have unpacked the delivery, consider the environment and recycle the packaging products. There could be cardboard centre tubes, plastic bungs, plastic ties and plastic wrapping on the roll, which should all be recycled. Any waste artificial grass could also be re-used for many applications, such as a doormat or playhouse covering.

# Storing

It is recommended to store the artificial grass in the roll, until you are ready to install. If you intend to store the grass, then it should only ever be rolled and not folded as this would cause marks in the grass surface and backing. Do not sit the rolls on wooden slats as this will cause stretch marks on the grass. Store on a flat even ground, preventing any objects being placed on top of the roll of grass, to avoid creasing the grass.

Please note: If the grass is stored for a long period of time, in the roll, before fitting, there may be pressure marks in the grass, which should come out when the grass is unrolled and left to settle. We recommend the product is installed within 7 days of delivery.



\* Please do not install the artificial grass if you are not happy with the product. Once installed, the product is deemed to have been accepted.

\*Please note that all product sizes, weights and thickness's stated are nominal.



# Installation





If this is your first time ever, or first time in a while, using our Luxigraze products, we strongly recommend reading all sections of our 'Understanding and Installing Luxigraze Guide' before starting an installation.

**Any artificial grass landscaping project is a significant investment, and so the installation of the artificial grass should be done correctly to minimise the risk of any problems once it's laid.**

If you decide to use a professional contractor, thoroughly research the installer and their company, check online reviews, ask for references from previous projects of a similar nature, visit previous jobs, and make sure you are comfortable in dealing with the company.

Competent installation of artificial grass is a professional job best undertaken by an experienced installer. However, if you do decide to install the grass yourself, do plenty of research into materials and methods, and seek the best advice on how to carry out the installation.

The Luxigraze Quotation Form is available from either our Customer Experience Team or downloadable from the website. Please complete and return to obtain an accurate quotation, for the supply and delivery of the Luxigraze Artificial Grass and accessories, to cover your required area, or speak to your local stockist.

Many people are surprised to learn just how much is involved when it comes to installing artificial grass, which is one reason we always recommend an experienced installer to lay artificial grass. Their experience and expertise will result in a longer lasting, better performing artificial lawn.

This next section guides you through the basics of correct laying methods for artificial grass.

## Top Tips

- **Always** inspect your product to ensure you are completely happy before you lay. Inspect the packaging upon delivery and roll out the artificial grass, before installing.
- **Always** order at the same time, to ensure batch match and colour consistency
- **Never** lay straight onto soil or natural grass
- **Always** ensure you lay multiple pieces of artificial grass with the pile running in the same direction
- **Always** leave the artificial grass to settle, once first unrolled, for a minimum of 24 hours. This allows it to acclimatise and any creasing or wrinkling to fall out.



# Preparation

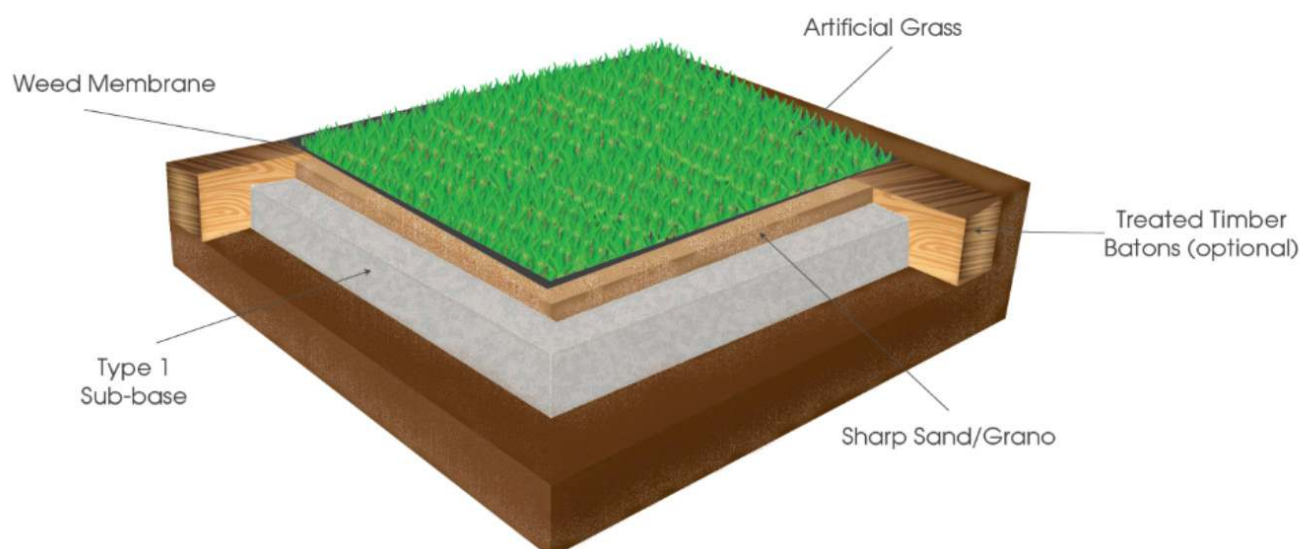
We understand how exciting laying a new lawn can be, but please ensure that the correct equipment and materials are to hand before starting the installation process.

## Materials List

- Luxigraze Artificial Grass
- Luxigraze Jointing Tape (required to seam 2 pieces of grass together)
- Luxigraze Adhesive (can be used with the Jointing Tape to complete a seam. Can also be used to secure perimeters on a hard base)
- Luxigraze U Pins to secure the Luxigraze Artificial Grass into soft ground
- Weed membrane
- Type 1 crushed stone (for every 10sq.metres of Luxigraze Artificial Grass, we recommend 1 tonne)
- Sharp sand/grano (for every 10sq.metres of Luxigraze Artificial Grass, we recommend 0.5 tonne)
- 4 x 1 inch treated timber (if required)
- 2 x 1 inch treated timber stakes (if required)
- 40mm galvanised screws to secure the Luxigraze to the timber perimeter (if required)

## Tools List

- Skip to dispose of old lawn
- Turf cutter (hired) or manual removal, if preferred
- Wacker plate / Compacter (hired) or lawn roller. if preferred
- Cartridge gun (for the Luxigraze Adhesive)
- Stanley Knife
- Wheelbarrow
- Screed bar for levelling
- Spade
- Rake
- Shovel
- Hammer
- Protective Gloves
- Knee Pads
- Safety Boots (Steel toe cap boots)
- Ear Defenders
- Eye Protection
- Face Protection
- Protective Clothing



# Base Preparation & Installing Luxigraze

Our Luxigraze installation guide provides you with step-by-step advice on how to lay Luxigraze Artificial Grass. Preparation of the base is key to the look, stability and drainage of the artificial grass. Follow these simple steps to achieve a perfect finish, which will look fabulous for years to come.

## **Pavetuf Straight Edge**

Pavetuf Straight Edge is the perfect choice for edging Luxigraze Artificial Grass, giving a neat garden appearance with perfect straight lines, crisp corners, gentle curves and shapes. It is manufactured from aircraft grade aluminium alloy, designed to last at least 25 years, providing a low maintenance solution, with no painting, staining or rusting to worry about. Held securely in place with barbed Fixing Stakes, it is light and easy to handle with a unique telescopic design to make installation quick and easy.

Treated timber batons can be installed around the perimeter to allow you to screw and secure the Luxigraze Artificial Grass into place.

An alternative edge detail is to spread a concrete layer often called a haunch, around the perimeter. This should be approximately 50mm deep by 100mm wide with a smooth flat top, finished around 10-15mm below the desired level, to leave room for the grass. Ensure the concrete is completely cured before laying the sub-base. The sand/granite dust should be level with the top of the haunch. Once set the artificial grass can be secured to the top of the haunch using the Luxigraze Adhesive. Press down with your hands to ensure a tight seal. Please be aware this needs to be pulled and fixed under tension, as once the adhesive is cured, it will be difficult to adjust.





### Step 1 - Remove your existing turf

Depending on conditions, remove your existing lawn and top soil to a depth of approx. 40-80mm.

This can be done either by hand, using a spade, or using a mechanical turf cutter.

Dispose of waste in a skip. Compact the ground using a wacker or roller.



### Step 2 - Edge the area (Optional)

If your planned artificial grass area is surrounded by fixed objects such as a patio, fence, or wall, then no additional edging is required. Luxigraze U Pins can then be used around the edge of the grass to hold it in place.

If constructing a new area, edging is required to keep the sub-base materials in place. Always install the edging before laying the sub-base. Treated timber battens/sleepers, aluminium / metal edging, concrete or brick edging can be used, depending on the preferred finish.



### Step 3 - Add aggregate

Once the edging is in place, fill the area with aggregate (MOT Type 1 Stone). Rake level then compact the sub base using a wacker or roller. To create a chamfered finish at perimeters, set at approx. 30-35mm below perimeter edgings. Using a rake level the area off to natural falls.

We recommend 1 tonne / 10 sq. metres of Luxigraze Artificial Grass.



### Step 4 - Add Sand/ Grano Dust

Top up the remaining area with a thin layer (approx. 10-20mm) of sharp sand/grano dust. Using a rake, level the area out and create a crowned profile. This produces a natural appearance to the installation will help accommodate any settlement over time. Compact again, to ensure a smooth surface. Keep the base layer roughly 20mm below the top of your edging.

Grano dust is a great option over sharp sand – very stable, porous and holds less moisture, providing great drainage. If you are a pet owner, this means it is far less likely to hold the smell of urine.



We recommend 1 tonne / 10 sq. Metres of Luxigraze Artificial Grass.

### Step 5 - Add a membrane Layer

Lay the weed membrane immediately under the grass. This prevents weed growth, whilst allowing water drainage, and stops any seeds finding their way into the sand/grano dust, through the drainage holes, and germinating. Roll out and peg the weed membrane. It needs to cover the entire area and the edges need to be overlapped. Trim the membrane with a Stanley knife and secure in place with galvanized nails.



### Step 6 - Roll out the artificial grass

Move the roll into position and unroll your Luxigraze Artificial Grass, taking care not to damage the grass when removing the packaging. Lay on top of your prepared base, being careful not to move the weed membrane.



Make sure the grass pile is facing towards your home or main viewpoint as it will ensure a full and natural look. If the pile is facing away from your home, it will appear shiny. For installations where the pile is horizontal to the home, the artificial grass will look great – you will not be looking into the pile, and therefore no glare will come off making it appear shiny!



It is recommended to leave the grass to settle, before installing, for a minimum of 24 hours, to acclimatise and allow any creasing, wrinkling or pressure marks to fall out. This is due to it being flattened after being tightly rolled up in storage.

\*\* If more than one roll of Luxigraze is ordered at the same time (on the same order), and supplied directly from our warehouse, we will always guarantee they batch match, to ensure there are no slight colour differences. Please be aware, if you are order more artificial grass at a later date, there may be a colour difference, due to batch variations.

Please ensure if purchasing multiple pieces of from Luxigraze Artificial Grass from a stockist, you make them aware they are for the same area, to ensure batch match.

**PLEASE DO NOT INSTALL THE LUXIGRAZE IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY WITH THE PRODUCT. ONCE INSTALLED, THE PRODUCT IS DEEMED TO HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED.**



### Step 7 - Trim the artificial grass

Once the grass has settled and acclimatised, trim the excess artificial grass. Cut and trim in at the perimeters using a sharp Stanley knife, ensuring you cut the grass neat to your defined edge. Ensure the knife is sharp & swap blades every few metres as it makes a much cleaner and neater cut. Always remember to cut from the underneath of the grass, reducing the size until it fits perfectly.



**TRIM WITH CAUTION. Do not over trim. Use protective gloves when handling sharp knives**

### Step 8 - Fix down the edges of the artificial grass

If you are certain that the grass is in the correct position, it now needs to be secured in place. If incorporating timber batons nails should be tapped into the edging every 15-20cm. To secure to a concrete haunch, use the Luxigraze Adhesive and press down with your hands to ensure a tight seal. Alternatively, fix down the edges of the artificial grass, using Luxigraze U Pins, every 15-20cm, ruffling the pile to disguise the pins.



### Cutting Techniques

Where there is an obstacle (like a tree or post), fold the grass back and decide the shortest route to cut. Then cut between the tufts, cutting in the same direction from the base to one edge of the lawn. Take care not to trim any of the blades of grass as this will create a poor seam.

Where the grass fits too tight around the obstacle, splice the carpet starting at the bottom of the obstacle. This releases any tension and allows the grass to lay flat. The two edges that have been cut to go around the post should come together. If not, this indicates that the grass is still under tension and will need further cutting. Finally, join the two edges back together with Luxigraze Jointing Tape & Luxigraze Adhesive.



### Step 9 - Brush up the pile of the artificial grass

After the grass is in place, has been secured, and any joins cured, (see Joining The Artificial Grass) brush up the pile of the artificial grass, with a mechanical power brush or stiff broom, to lift the pile and stimulate the fibres. This rejuvenates the pile from storage compaction, due to being rolled up for a period of time.



## Optional Sand Dressing

Sand dressing is not necessary for domestic gardens, however we would recommend where there is high footfall and regular play activity, as it adds stability and weight to the product.

For commercial applications, in particular, a light dressing of kiln dried is advised after laying. This makes the grass more fire resistant, as it acts as an extinguisher, slowing the spread of fire to another surface.

For these applications, we would suggest approx. 5-8kg/sq.metre kiln dried silica sand to be added to the surface of the grass after laying. Simply disperse over the total surface area then brush in with a stiff broom.

The installation should only be carried out during dry weather. Should the lawn get wet, this will cause problems when infilling with the sand.



## Tips to success

- Take your time
- Always ensure your knife is sharp - Blunt knives make a messy cut
- Measure and plan - This makes the job of installing a success



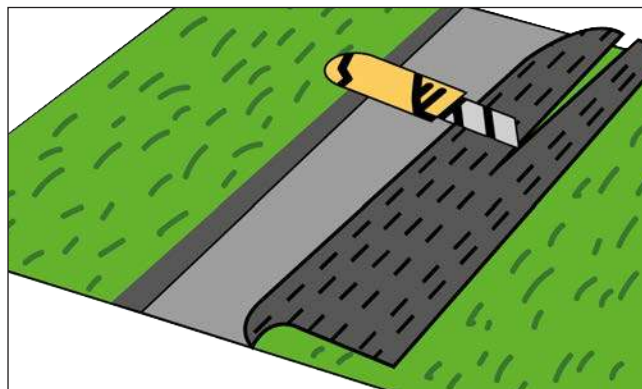
# Joining the Artificial Grass

If a join in the artificial grass is required, butt both pieces together, ensuring the pile is running in the same direction.



## Step 1

Fold back 30-40cm on each side along the length of the join and trim from the back side, with a Stanley knife, a minimum of 2 stitch lines in from the edge of each roll. Cut the latex backing in-between the stitches and not the grass fibres, as this will result in a poor seam. Remove any selvedge (this will be found on one edge of a 2m wide cut or both edges on a 4m cut).



## Step 2

Fold the grass back over to enable the join to be checked. Manoeuvre the two pieces until they are square with each other. Once satisfied, fold back the grass.

Unroll the Luxigraze Jointing Tape, green (shiny) side down, along the entire length of the join. Secure in place, to stop the tape moving.



## Step 3

Apply the adhesive onto the rough (white) side of the jointing tape in a 'zig zag' motion. (Allow 1 Cartridge of Luxigraze Adhesive for every 3m of Luxigraze Jointing Tape). It is recommended to leave approx. 5cm free from adhesive at either edge of the tape. Spread the adhesive evenly down the centre of the tape using a notched trowel. Do not apply too much glue & take care not to get any glue on the grass.



### Step 4

Fold down the two cuts, pressing the grass into the wet adhesive. Ensure both edges meet correctly and neatly, no glue finds itself on the grass surface and the grass fibres are not tucked under the grass. The more care taken over this stage, the neater and less visible the join will be. If the adhesive gets on the grass, use a light solvent and cloth to remove it.

Take great care when laying the grass join as this is very hard to undo if you make a mistake.



**TIP: Brush the grass fibres up where two rolls join to ensure a neat join. Reposition until you are happy with the joins across the whole area.**

### Step 5

Following application, weight the join to ensure a flat, even joint is formed. Allow the adhesive to cure (see Luxigraze Adhesive for curing time). Leave at least 2 hours for the glue to cure & up to a day if below freezing. Be careful when walking on the grass in this time.



### Step 6

Once satisfied, and the adhesive is cured, complete the cutting in and secure the artificial grass in place.



Self Adhesive Jointing Tape, which is supplied in 5m lengths, can be used as an alternative to the above. However, it is only recommended on smaller areas, with small joins, such as a balcony or roof garden. Follow steps 1 and 2 above, roll out the Self Adhesive Jointing Tape, peel off the backing and then follow steps 5, 6 and 7. It is advised to leave the Self Adhesive Jointing Tape approx. 24 hours, before cutting in and/or use.



# Installing on Hard Surfaces

**The base needs to be smooth, clean, dry and free from dust, debris, loose particles, water or contaminants, such as oil, as they could affect the adhesive curing. It should ideally have a fall to help disperse rainwater (minimum 1.5%).**

Paving slabs are not satisfactory, as the pattern of the slabs may show through on the surface of the grass. We recommend the slabs are to be removed and the sub base covered with a fine layer of sharp sand / grano dust, before installing the artificial grass. Please check the suitability of the sub base once the slabs are removed and fill in any lower parts, ensuring the sub base is to the correct level and levelled, using a wacker plate. Follow the 'Base Preparation' section, above.

If a new base is being constructed, a slight fall should be incorporated to assist drainage. However, if there is no fall, it is recommended that a few drainage holes are made in the concrete, to allow the rainwater to drain through the artificial grass. The advice is for newly laid concrete to be sealed, otherwise the adhesive will seep through and not adhere properly.

Fully bonding to a solid base is acceptable, as long as there is a fall to allow the water to run off freely.

To install artificial grass over existing decking, we would advise against a shorter pile artificial grass, as there is a chance you may see the pattern of the gaps between the boards. It is recommended to select a product with a pile of 30mm and above, to minimise this. Another option is to use Marine Plywood as when nailed directly on the decking, it will create a completely flat surface, on which the artificial grass can be installed. It will then be necessary to drill holes in the Marine Ply, so the water can drain through. To secure artificial grass to decking, it is instructed to fix it down with a staple gun or tack in place to ensure it doesn't move.

It is recommended you unroll the artificial grass and allow it a minimum of 24 hours to settle. Trim to size, stretch out the artificial grass and fix using Luxigraze Adhesive, ensuring there are no creases or trapped air. This can be spot stuck or secured along the perimeters (1 Luxigraze Adhesive will provide a 10m bead).

Weights are advised to be placed on the surface during the advised curing time (see Luxigraze Adhesive for details). Alternatively, the surface could be rolled periodically during the curing time. Once you are happy with the results, brush pile with a stiff broom or mechanical power brush, to lift the fibres.

## Tips to success

- Be aware that the adhesive for artificial grass installations is intended to be very strong so if you ever want to remove the grass it may leave a mark.
- The success of your artificial grass installation on top of a smooth solid base will also depend on how well the existing surface drains water.



# Maintenance & Aftercare

Light maintenance is all that is required once Luxigraze is installed. No more wasting time with the lawn mower or strimmer, your artificial grass will always look freshly cut.





# Clearing Debris

In order to maintain your Luxigraze artificial grass, it is recommended that on a regular basis you remove any debris such as leaves, twigs or airborne seeds, using a stiff brush or leaf blower. If left over a long period, it could encourage weeds or moss to grow, and cause drainage issues. Additionally, trim back hedges and over hanging trees regularly, to limit the amount of leaves falling onto the lawn.

## Weeds

It is advised a weed membrane is laid underneath the artificial grass, which should act as a barrier and prevent weeds growing up through the surface. However, this cannot stop weeds growing on the top of the artificial grass. Weeds love moisture and any plant debris that may fall on the lawn can provide a nice bed to grow in. It is suggested to sweep the artificial grass often to get rid of excess leaves and debris and to prevent airborne seeds germinating and weeds forming in the artificial grass surface. If any weeds do appear remove them immediately, to prevent seed dispersal.

## Lifting the Pile

It is advised to regularly brush your grass, with either a power brush or a stiff broom, to keep the pile upright, restoring its natural beauty. As an artificial lawn is used it may experience some flattening of the fibres in areas of high foot traffic. Typically, a warm sunny day will help rejuvenate the pile, but a quick brush will also help.

## Heavy Objects

Garden furniture and other heavy objects, such as a trampoline, can be used on the artificial grass but it is recommended to regularly move the position of the furniture to allow the grass pile below to recover. Avoid parking cars or other vehicles as this could cause compaction of the artificial grass.

## Pets

Artificial grass is permeable, as well as safe, so all dog mess can be cleaned and picked up easily. The artificial grass fibres will not discolour and will remain completely undamaged. Rain will help clean your artificial grass. Luxigraze cleaning products are the perfect solution to keep the area sterile and quickly remove pet urine smells from your artificial grass permanently. Luxigraze Cleaner is safe for pets and children to walk on as soon as the surface it is completely dry.

## Cleaning

Luxigraze Artificial Grasses are made with polyethylene and/or polypropylene which are forms of plastic. Stubborn marks will not therefore filtrate into the fibre but can be wiped clean with the use of Luxigraze Cleaner or hot water and household detergent (washing up liquid). Try to remove any spills when it is a fresh spill, rather than when it has had time to harden. We do not recommend any contact with bleach.

# Preventing Damage

It is important to protect artificial grass if you are painting in the immediate area of the grass. Place a protective sheet over the area, as not all paints will be washable.

Although artificial grass is highly resilient, care should be taken with sharp objects which may damage the surface, as well as serious injury to others.

The use of unsuitable footwear, such as football/ rugby boots, stilettos or any footwear that is not flat could damage the artificial grass

Please be aware that shiny surfaces such as mirrors, mirrored walls, windows and other reflective surfaces, which are in full sun for the majority of the day can reflect the sun's rays and magnify onto the grass causing it to burn. Therefore, careful consideration is required to prevent this (see 'Artificial Grass Melting' in Common Issues).

BBQs, fire-pits and hedge cutters (laid onto the surface) can melt the surface and are not recommended to be used where artificial grass is laid. This will cause the grass fibres to melt. Lighted cigarettes cannot ignite the artificial grass, but they can damage it by fusing the tips of the fibres together.





# Common Issues / Incorrect Laying Methods

Please find detailed the most common installation mistakes, with solutions and tips to avoid such issues, which may arise when installing artificial grass.

## Handling & Delivery

Artificial Grass can be heavy. Ensure when handling rolls of grass you do so with care. The roll should not be bent or folded, as this could result in the artificial grass being stretched and damaged.



## Pile Direction

All artificial grasses have a slight pile direction along the length of the roll. This will be noticeable when the grass is first unrolled. However, once installed and brushed, it is harder to notice.

The pile direction needs to be taken into consideration when measuring, planning and installing. If sections of grass are not laid in the same direction, it will highlight the join and create a shade difference, which will always look a slightly different colour.

It is also recommended to install the artificial grass with the pile facing towards the house or main viewpoint, to ensure your lawn look as natural as possible.



# Creases, Pressure Marks & Tube Lines

Due to the nature of artificial grass, creases, pressure marks or tube lines may be visible when first unrolled. The product is not classed as faulty if delivered or unrolled with creases. Creases will fall out.

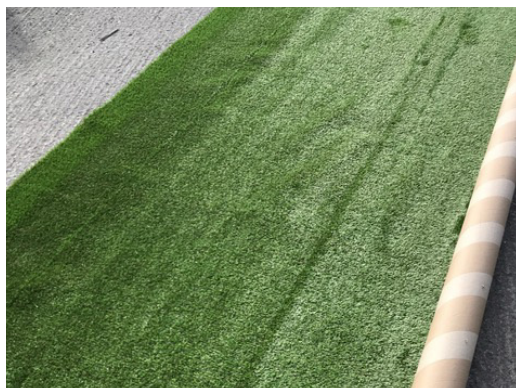
After being rolled up tightly, on a cardboard centre tube, when it is first opened and unrolled, it is quite normal for the artificial grass to look very flat and 'lifeless'. It is recommended you unroll the artificial grass and leave for a minimum of 24 hours to 'acclimatise'. This allows any ridges or bumps to naturally fall out and will make the grass far easier to install, without any undulations.

For more stubborn creasing, and where the fibres have been crushed when rolled on the cardboard centre tube, it is advised to let the grass acclimatise, by rolling out in the sun, for at least an hour or two, to warm through. The warmth can soften the backing, allowing it to become more flexible. This will make it easy for you to pull or stretch out. Once unrolled, pull at all 4 corners and leave to settle. Turn over the artificial grass, exposing the latex backing to the sun, and leave for a period of time. The backing should feel warmer and supple. Stretch the creases out by pulling at the edges. Once satisfied, ensure the product is fitted under tension. For a tube line, we would also recommend brushing the artificial grass, with a stiff brush, on and around the affected area.

In the colder weather apply warm (not boiling) water to the surface and backing and follow the above.

**TUBE LINE:** If ordering a full roll, to allow for severe crushing at the end of the roll, we supply an extra 0.50m, so this section should not be used and disposed of.

**DO NOT INSTALL UNTIL YOU ARE HAPPY THAT ANY CREASES HAVE DROPPED OUT.** If artificial grass is installed, without having chance for the fibres to relax, there will be nowhere for the creases to fall to. This is like having a bubble in your carpet at home, it just moves from one place to another.



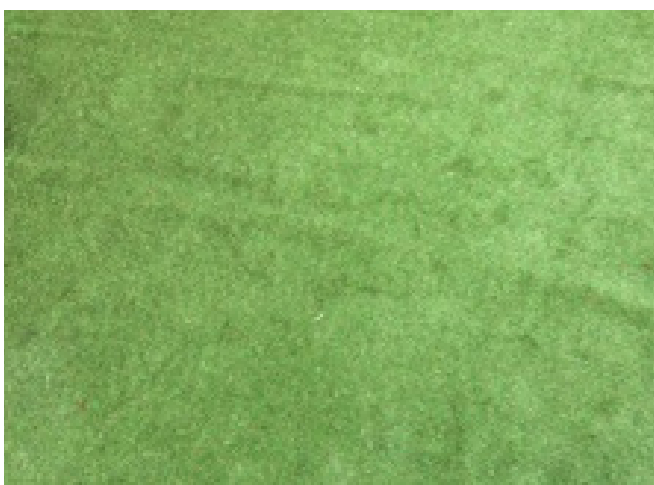


# Uneven Base

If the base is not prepared properly, it will be prone to holes and sinking spots.

A good and solid sub-base will make laying artificial grass easy. It will hold everything together. This will stop your grass from sinking, bumps from appearing in the lawn and prevent all other problems that come with it. It will also give you a great looking lawn that will last for many years.

Unfortunately laying artificial grass directly on top of soil or existing grass just will not work. The finished result would be an extremely uneven looking lawn.



# Drainage Issues

Artificial grass is pre-punched with drainage holes, to allow water to drain through. A poor draining lawn will collect water in all the wrong places and lead to puddles accumulating every time it rains. If not addressed early enough, there will be further issues, costing a lot of time and money. This includes the artificial grass becoming unstable, the growth of mould, mildew and weeds, due to the high moisture levels and ultimately, reducing the lifespan of the artificial grass.

Dig and use rubble to fill areas where you want drainage to be smooth. It is a great way to make sure that liquids pass through easily. However, NEVER use wet clay under your artificial grass. This will only slow your drainage more (see Installation Methods for the recommended base preparation).



# Batch Matching

Artificial grass is like paint, or wallpaper, when it comes to batch matching, as the yarn is produced in dye batches. Therefore, every batch will vary slightly in colour. Although the exact same recipe of colour combinations, yarn specifications and backing materials are applied to each manufacturing run, of the same product, there will always be minimal colour variations between every batch on a production day, which could be influenced by a number of factors including temperature, humidity and storage conditions.

In the case of artificial grass installations, where joined sections of the same product have different shades of green between each piece, it is likely that one of the sections has come from a different roll, which was not manufactured at the same time as the adjoining roll.

When purchasing more than one piece of artificial grass, for your installation, we guarantee all grass ordered at the same time, on the same order, and supplied direct from our warehouse, will be from the same batch. This is to ensure there are no slight colour differences. Please be aware if you want to add more grass to an area at a later date, there may be a slight colour difference, due to batch variations.

Please ensure if purchasing multiple pieces of Luxigraze Artificial Grass from a stockist, you make them aware they are for the same area, to ensure they batch match.

We cannot be liable for any differences in the colour, for the same product, if ordered separately.



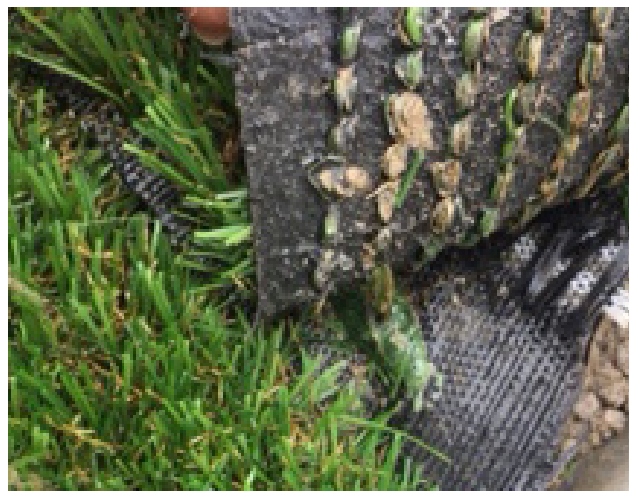


# Visible Joint Lines

Artificial grass is supplied in rolls 2m and 4m wide and due to the shape of your lawn, you may need to join multiple rolls of grass together to cover it. If the grass is joined properly you will not see the joint when you stand over the grass. Joint lines are caused by light bouncing off the grass blades that are pushed together. Ensure that the Installation Methods are followed.

## Remove the selvedge

Firstly, when you unroll the artificial grass, you will notice a strip of membrane attached to the outside edge of the roll, known as the 'selvedge', which is used to feed the primary backing through the stitching machine. It is vital that the selvedge is removed (in addition to the minimum of 2 stitch lines) before attempting to glue two pieces of grass together, as the fibres of the outer edge are frayed outwards and will be impossible to blend in naturally with the other roll of grass.



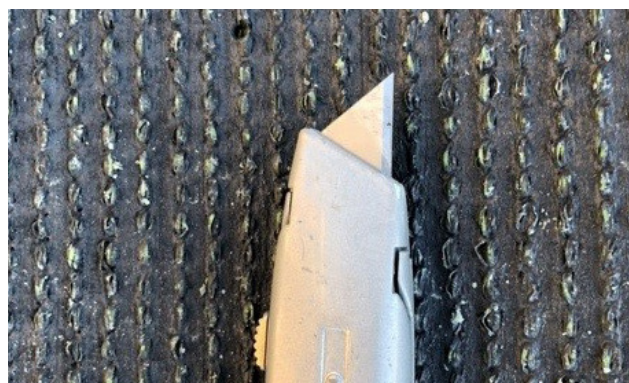
## Do not use the selvedge as a replacement for jointing tape

It is not recommended to use the selvedge, as a replacement for jointing tape. In other words, DO NOT stick the adhesive to the selvedge to form a join. The join will be visible and will lift as you will be unable to glue right to the edge.



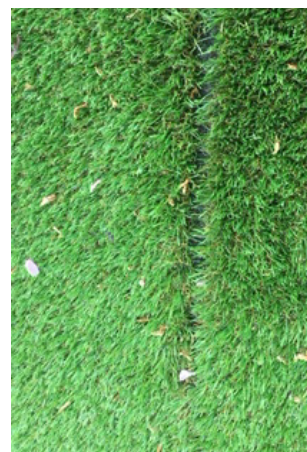
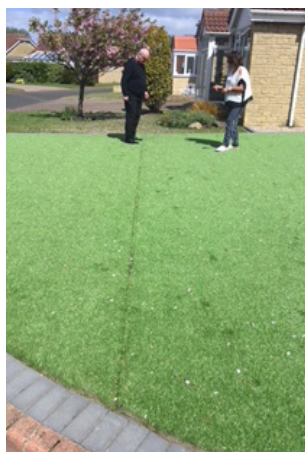
## Trim in between the stitch lines

To ensure an invisible join, it is advised to count at least 2 stitches in from the edge of each roll, cutting in between the stitches. If you cut across the stitches, the joint will be visible, as it is not replicating the structure and the stitching of the artificial grass.



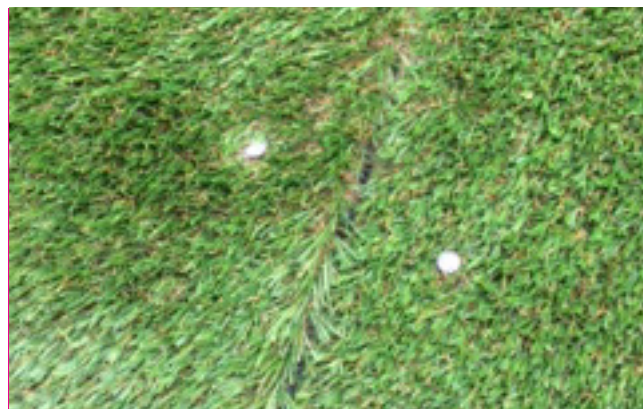
### Do not leave a gap in the 2 pieces to be joined

It is not recommended to leave a gap in between the two pieces of artificial grass to be joined. Please note, cutting and adhering a thin strip of artificial grass, to be placed in the gap, is not the solution!



### Secure the join well

When joining two pieces of artificial grass it is extremely important to ensure that they are properly secured together, to prevent the join from coming apart. It is advised you use 1 cartridge for every 3m of jointing tape (see Installation Methods). It is not recommended to pin the joins together using U Pins, as this will not be sufficient to form a strong, invisible join.



## Lifted Edges

When artificial grass is not fixed properly, it will lift at the edges. In addition to the installation not appearing finished, it will also become a trip hazard and the wind may be able to blow the grass off the ground.

It is advised to install an edging to the perimeter of your lawn, using sturdy fixings to secure the edges of the artificial grass. The fixings can vary, depending on each individual installation (see Installation Methods for more information). This will guarantee that the edges will not lift and compromise your family or pets' safety.

## Grass Flattening

As you use your artificial lawn, the fibres will flatten over time as you would expect with a long pile carpet, or even natural turf. To discourage flattening it is advised to give your lawn a brush every month, or whenever required, with a stiff outdoor brush or using a motorised power brush, brushing in the opposite direction to that of the fibres. Plastic becomes more flexible the warmer it is, so this is best done during a warm sunny day.

The grass can also flatten in areas where garden furniture is stored. Once you move the furniture, follow the advice above, and the fibres will return to their upright position.



# Weed Growth

**Artificial grass is a low maintenance product, not a no maintenance product.**

Installing a good membrane, underneath the sub-base, prevents weeds from growing through the grass. Weeds can potentially grow up the sides of the grass and airborne seeds could cause weeds to nestle in the fibres, however these weeds are very easily removed, with regular care. The Luxigraze Spot Cleaner or Luxigraze Cleanser is advisable as anything stronger may cause damage to the grass.



## Moss

A problem that can affect your artificial grass is moss build up. To prevent this from happening, ensure you clear and remove leaves and other natural debris, with a pressure washer or leaf blower (do not use if your grass is sand filled), as regularly as required.

## Pet Urine Odour

Artificial grass is safe for pets, however using the toilet excessively on the lawn, may cause a lingering odour! It is therefore recommended this is considered, when planning the installation, as the liquid needs to be able to pass through the sub-base and drain away.

The sub-base should comprise of hardcore and granite dust, as the granite dust will act as the drainage system for your artificial grass. Other materials, such as building sand, will hold moisture and after a while will obtain the strong smell of ammonia. Ensure each layer is properly compacted down to create a solid drainage system and sub-base for your artificial lawn.

When pets are using the artificial grass, it is advised the area is regularly hosed down. In addition, apply the Luxigraze Cleaner, which will neutralise pet urine smells, especially during the peak summer months, when smells can be heightened. Luxigraze Cleaner is safe for pets and children to walk on as soon as the surface it is completely dry.

# Artificial Grass Melting

Artificial grass can melt as a result of intense heat being directly or indirectly applied to the polymer in the yarn. When the temperature increases above the melting point of the polymer it will cause it to disintegrate. This can happen in several scenarios:

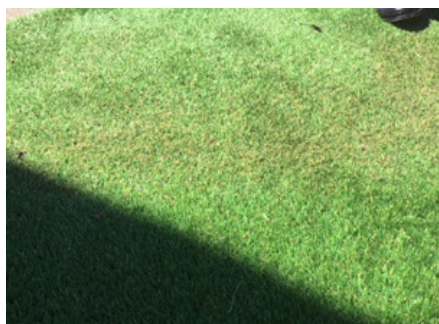
## Through sunlight reflecting off different surfaces in the surrounding area of the lawn:

- Windows – garden rooms and buildings are becoming increasingly popular and often these will be built with large walls of glass or windows to capture light and heat. These can have a large surface area for sunlight to reflect off for a sustained period. The leading cause of this damage is energy-efficient Low-E glass, which uses a microscopic coating of metallic oxide allowing light to enter, whilst preventing radiant heat and solar heat from entering the room. This, in turn, reflects the heat away from the home, and magnifies it to a point of melting the turf.
- Polished Gutters – often dark colours which absorb heat and reflect light from their shiny surface.
- Outside Decorative Mirrors – reflects sunlight at a high intensity off a large surface area, melting the surrounding areas.
- Reflective Panels – on doors, sheds, outbuildings etc. These can also have a big surface area which light can reflect off for a long time.



## Through direct heat on the artificial grass:

- Direct Heat – either through vandalism, cigarettes/cigars, stray embers/hot coals from a barbecue or fire pit, or hedge cutters and tools laid on the surface. This kind of intense heat applied directly onto an artificial lawn can burn and melt the grass.
- Chemicals like oil and grease – these liquids have harmful substances that can damage and discolour the artificial grass.



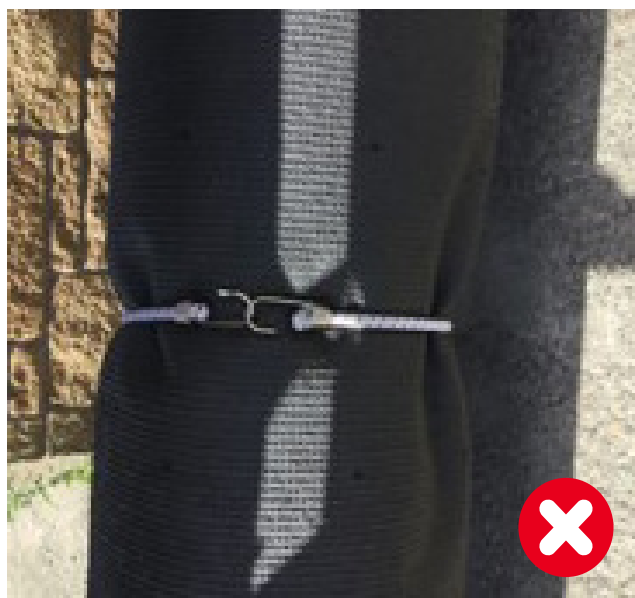
Please note, if Luxigraze Artificial Grass melts, due to intense heat being applied indirectly, or directly, it is not covered under our warranty.



# Storage

Once received, do not secure the roll with a bung, as it could indent the grass, and cause it to fold over on itself. This will result in a deep crease(s) in the grass, once unrolled, which may take some time to eliminate. It is advised to secure the roll with tape.

If the grass is not kept rolled, but left folded, and in a heap, it will crease the artificial grass, which will take time to remove.



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **How long will Luxigraze last?**

The life expectancy of Luxigraze Artificial Grass depends on its usage. If installed and maintained to our recommendations, it is estimated that it will last for up to 15-20 years through normal domestic / garden use.

## **Will Luxigraze fade from the sunlight?**

Luxigraze Artificial Grasses are fully UV and colour stabilised, so it does not fade. The product guarantee covers against UV fading for 10 years. This is based on UK climate conditions, so only applies to products sold and installed within the UK. The guarantee does not cover accidental damage.

## **What is Luxigraze made from?**

Luxigraze Artificial Grasses are manufactured using durable plastic polymers polyethylene and/or polypropylene. These lightweight plastics are extremely resistant to damage, providing Luxigraze artificial grasses a UV Guarantee of 10 years.

## **Does Luxigraze have a directional pile?**

All artificial grasses have a slight pile direction along the length of the roll. This will be noticeable when first unrolled. The artificial grass will look slightly lighter from one direction and darker from another. This needs to be taken into consideration when measuring, planning and installing.

Where possible, make sure the grass pile is facing towards your home or main viewpoint, to ensure a full and natural look. Artificial grass looks at its best when you are looking into the pile of the grass, otherwise it can appear shiny.

## **How does Luxigraze drain water?**

All Luxigraze Artificial Grasses have pre-punched drainage holes. This allows rain water to drain through, providing the sub-base is free draining. The drainage holes are concealed within the pile height and not visible when installed.

## **Can you add to an existing area of Luxigraze?**

If you would like to add to an existing piece of artificial grass, please bear in mind that it will not look identical to the artificial grass already laid. If you select the same product to add to the area, for a later additional order, it is likely that there will be a batch variation so the artificial grass may not look the same. Furthermore, specifications can be updated and improved over time. Additionally, the artificial grass will also be brand new so will not have the same wear and tear as the existing area.



### **Can you use Luxigraze as a driveway?**

It is not recommended to park heavy vehicles on artificial grass, as driving on the artificial grass fibres is likely to imprint impressions, permanently squashing and changing the direction of the pile. Rubber tyres, under the weight of a vehicle, are likely to pull and rip the grass fibres out of the lawn causing damage. We would recommend that artificial grass can be a great compliment to a paved driveway.

### **Can you lay Luxigraze on sloped areas?**

It is very important to anchor the Luxigraze Artificial Grass on a steep slope to stop it sliding down the slope over a period of time. Using Luxigraze U Pins, fix along the upper edge at 300mm centres, 50mm in from the edge of the carpet making sure the angle of fixing does not lean towards the slope. On steep slopes extra fixing is required down the slope at regular intervals.

### **Can you lay artificial grass directly onto your existing lawn?**

It is not recommended to lay Artificial Gras on top of soil or existing grass as this would result in an extremely uneven looking lawn. The grass will die, and soil can disintegrate over time, leaving your artificial grass with unattractive and dangerous potholes. Additionally, during rainy seasons, gardens can be prone to flooding and water logging and therefore soil can easily seep through the grass and raise above the surface. As a result, the artificial grass will be covered with black, unsightly soil, which is extremely hard to clean

The best practice is to remove the grass, prepare the surface and install the artificial grass to the recommended guidelines (see Installation Guide), as it is vital to ensure that water drains effectively, resulting in a secure and long lasting foundation, for many years.

### **Will my artificial grass get hot in direct sunlight?**

As with decking, patios and other landscaping products exposed to direct sunlight, artificial grass can get hot in extreme temperatures. Simply rinse with a garden hose to quickly reduce the surface temperature if, for example, the children are playing in bare feet.

### **Is Luxigraze affected by cold weather?**

Artificial grass can cope with the general cold weather experienced in the UK. It will not die with a change in temperature and it will stay green all year. On the rare occasion that we experience a particularly cold snap and there is compacted snow or ice, the fibres can stiffen and flatten, and the artificial grass can become temporarily slippery, so be careful when walking over the lawn.

If there is a light snow covering, then we recommend you let it melt naturally. However, if the snow does build up you can remove it by hand, so you don't damage any of the fibres. You can use a shovel to remove snow but use plastic rather than metal as it is less likely to damage the fibres of your grass. The artificial grass should bounce back naturally, and you can help lift the pile by using a stiff brush on it. It is not recommended to salt the area as the it can affect the drainage of your lawn.

If heavy snow is forecast, you could put down a waterproof sheet, like tarpaulin, to protect your lawn as a preventative measure.

The grass may be a little more cumbersome to install in cooler weather conditions. Additionally, due to storage, there may be slight creases in the grass where the roll has been resting curled up. These creases should relax after the grass has had a chance to warm up under the sun and acclimatise to the outside temperature. However, during the winter, this may take longer, when it is naturally very cold and the light is weaker. If the artificial grass is frozen, it is recommended to let it thaw before attempting to install, so the fibres do not become damaged.

### **Is Luxigraze flammable?**

Luxigraze Artificial Grasses are manufactured with high-quality synthetic materials, providing a fire-resistant surface, which will not burn, but will melt when coming into contact with fire and hot objects.

All Luxigraze Artificial Grasses come with an Efl classification. This is the standard for the fire safety of indoor flooring, where the potential for fire is far higher than in an outdoor environment. As a result, for an outdoor application, a class Efl is likely to be sufficient.

If you choose to add a small amount kiln dried sand to your artificial grass after laying, the sand infill will act as an extinguisher, and slow the spread of fire to another surface. Therefore, for commercial applications, a dressing of kiln dried silica sand is advised.

It is extremely important that anything that could damage your artificial grass surface is addressed before planning the installation. Surfaces such as windows, polished gutters, mirrors and reflective panels can cause the artificial lawn to melt due to the sunlight reflecting from those surfaces. (See section 'Artificial Grass Melting' on Page 41).

### **Where can I buy Luxigraze Artificial Grass?**

We have stockists of our Luxigraze Artificial Grass all over the UK. To find your nearest Luxigraze stockist contact our Customer Experience Team on 0330 333 8030 or visit [www.luxigraze.co.uk](http://www.luxigraze.co.uk) and use our friendly live chat service to speak with an agent and find your nearest stockist.

**[www.luxigraze.co.uk](http://www.luxigraze.co.uk)**

For further information or technical advice call  
**0330 333 8030**

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# Thankyou

For choosing Luxigraze Artificial Grass.





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