



# Artificial Grass DIY Installation Guide

DIY Guide for general installation purposes

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## Determine your area

Your measurements will determine how many square metres of grass you will need, how many cubic metres of cracker dust, and silica sand you will require, as well as how much soil you will need to dispose of (what size skip bin you will need).

**Tip:** Your measurement for grass supply will not necessarily match your measurement for other products. If your area is an odd shape, you may have waste material for your grass as it comes off a fixed width roll. Also, when ordering your grass, make sure to order slightly longer and wider than you need to allow for cutting in.

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## Cracker Dust Base

Distribute cracker dust evenly over the prepared surface. Level the cracker dust.



Cracker dust is available from select landscape yards throughout Perth and Western Australia, and can also be known as crusher dust or blue metal dust.

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## Site Preparation

**Tip:** Preparation will depend on your existing surface. You may want to poison existing grass using glyphosate (allow two weeks to ensure all grass or weeds have been killed off), remove existing grass by hand or with a turf cutter, and cap sprinklers where reticulation exists.

Excavate the area by hand or machine to allow for the addition of cracker dust and the height of the grass. As a guide, apply 70mm of cracker dust. This allows for 15% compaction of the cracker dust.

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## Compacting

Compact the cracker dust, then compact a second time.

**Tip:** Dampen the cracker dust after the first compaction to help determine where there are low spots that need to be topped up.



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### Laying the grass

The blades of the grass are directional, so it is important all of the lengths of artificial grass are facing the same way. Use a Stanley knife to cut out your pieces, leaving some overhang.

**Tip:** Where two pieces join, cut one piece close to the stitch, and the other piece away from the stitch with the backing exposed so you can overlap the two pieces. This will better hide the join.

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### Cutting in

Once your pieces are joined, use a Stanley knife to cut off the overhang from your edges.

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### Infill sand

Throw silica sand evenly over the grass. As a guide, apply to a depth of 5-10mm.

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### Secure the joins

Generally there are 3 ways you can secure the joins. You can use tape and glue, self adhesive joining tape, or secure along the joins with double pronged turf pegs. If using tape, once you are happy with the placement of your pieces, flip the edges over, away from where they will join. Use a nail or joining peg at either end to secure a length of joining tap across the cracker dust, and flip the two pieces back down onto the tape, making sure that if they are to overlap that the piece cut away from the stitch goes back down onto the tape first.

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### Secure the edges

Use turf pegs around the edges and along the joins. Move the blades out of the way as you hammer the pegs in so they don't get caught under the peg.

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### Brushing

Use a Power Broom or a stiff bristled garden broom to brush the grass in the opposite direction of the blades to make the blades stand up, and to brush the silica sand into the grass.