



“With your hard landscaping finished, you can **bring the garden to life...**

soften those hard lines with a lawn, both **practical for the children** to play on, and easy on the eye.”



You can find everything you need for your project at Applegate Garden's, visit [www.applegategardens.co.uk](http://www.applegategardens.co.uk).

### Tools you may require;

- fork
- garden rake
- spade
- wooden boards
- pegs and line
- hosepipe
- sprinkler

### Good tips...

A lawn can be laid at almost any time of the year, but try to avoid extremes in the weather, such as very cold temperatures where frost is likely, or very hot and sunny days in summer.

When working out how many rolls of turf you need to order, remember each roll of turf will cover 1 square metre. Remember to add 5% for wastage and shaping.

When preparing the soil in readiness for the lawn, the soil should not be sticking to the bottom of your boots too much. If it is, it's too wet to prepare effectively.



### Follow these 6 easy steps;

1. Using a scaled plan of the garden, mark out the position where the lawn will be situated using your pegs and line, then clear the site of any debris, large stones and weeds. Break up the entire surface with a garden fork.
2. Level the surface. This can be best achieved by digging the site then raking soil from any high spots into the hollows, firming with your feet as you go. For most lawns your eye will be accurate enough, as a few undulations are acceptable.
3. Once a level area has been achieved, tread the soil all over to ensure it is evenly compacted. You may need to rake over the surface and repeat, finishing with a fine tilth of about 20mm.
4. Starting at one edge, roll out the first couple of turves to form a straight row. Now lay a wooden board on top of this row and start to lay the next row. Stagger the joints like a brick wall, so no two ends match and remember to butt them up tightly to each other. Continue until the entire area has been covered, ensuring the turf goes at least 50mm or 2" over the edges.
5. Firm the turf with the back of your rake or a light roller to make sure there are no trapped air pockets and brush top dressing into the gaps for the best results.
6. Now neaten the edges to the shape you have marked out with your line. If it is a straight edge, use one of your (straight) wooden boards as a guide and cut along this, or for curved edges use a hose or rope as a guide.



For more detailed advice on gardening for beginners visit [www.applegategardens.co.uk](http://www.applegategardens.co.uk)

### You must also remember;

Use boards all the time when laying your lawn, and try not to walk on it for two weeks - wait until 20mm of new growth has appeared before mowing and keep well watered (ensure the water soaks through to the underlying soil) until established.