

Watering

Seeding

Newly seeded or sodded lawns require special irrigation. A newly seeded lawn should be watered daily and may need as many as three light waterings in a single day. Keep the seedbed moist, but not saturated, to a depth of 1 to 2 inches until germination occurs. Seedlings of a new lawn must not be stressed to the point of wilt. Continue with light applications of water — 1/8 to 1/4 inch — one to three times a day.



Watering with a light mist is best for establishing new lawns. As seedlings reach 2 inches in height, gradually reduce the frequency of watering and water more deeply. After the new lawn has been mowed two or three times, deep, infrequent waterings are the best.

Watering Quick Tips

- Best time to water is in the early morning
- Make sure to avoid puddling
- Areas of your lawn will need varying amounts of water
- Taller grass needs less water
- 1"-1.5" per week is needed during the summer months
- Water deeply and infrequently

Sodding

Newly sodded lawns require watering one or two times a day. Begin irrigation immediately after laying sod. Sod should be watered so that both the sod strip and the top inch of soil below the sod are wet. The first irrigation will take about an inch of water to completely wet the sod. After watering, lift up pieces of sod at several locations to determine if it has been adequately irrigated. Continue watering one to two times a day with light irrigations to prevent wilting and to ensure moist soil just below the sod layer.

As sod becomes established and roots penetrate and grow in the soil, gradually reduce the frequency of watering, but wet the soil deeper. After sod has been mowed two or three times, irrigate deeply and infrequently. During hot, windy conditions, establishing sod may require several light mistings per day to prevent wilt and potentially lethally high temperatures. In this case, light misting, just to wet the leaf surface and not to supply water to the soil, cools the grass plant as water is evaporated from the leaves.



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