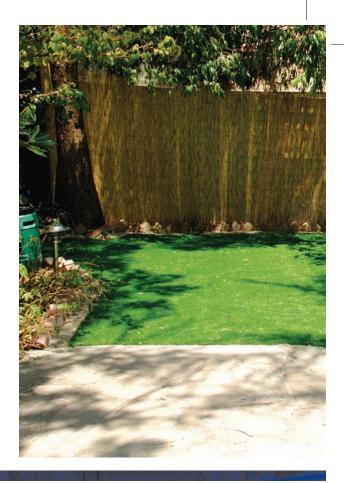
A BUNNINGS PROMOTION

Step 1 Laying turf

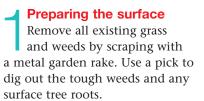




When you hear the term **artificial turf**, you imagine too-green, hard and unnatural-looking cricket pitches and tennis courts. But thanks to this **new product by Ideal** it's actually a great outdoor alternative. From a distance this synthetic grass looks nothing like the name suggests. It's a **UV-stabilised** product that's stain-resistant, non-rot and carries a three-year domestic warranty. It can be laid over concrete, timber, metal or firmly packed earth. And best of all, it's **very simple to lay**.









Clean up the edging
Scrape away the existing
ground to about 20mm
below the finished height of
any adjoining paved areas or
garden edging.



Compacting the soil
The subsoil should be dampened lightly with water before being compacted. Use a whacker packer or garden roller to do the job effectively.



Laying the second roll
Lay out the second roll of turf
and trim to size. Fold back
the edge and apply an even coat of
adhesive, such as Bostik Synthetic
Turf Adhesive, to the seaming
material. Use a 3mm notched
trowel for uniform coverage.



Invisible seams
Wait for the adhesive to become slightly stringy, then bring the two sheets together.
Make sure there are no turf fibres trapped in the seam as you smooth the sides down.



Anchoring the turf
Use 150mm irrigation pins
around the perimeter of the
turf, and space them throughout the
area in a 600mm grid. Push fibres
of turf away from under the pins
so they sit flush with the surface.





Buying turf

Artificial turf costs from \$33 per metre. It's available as 1.8m or 3.7m widths and can be bought by the metre or on the roll (from 10m to 30m). It withstands the traffic of kids' playing areas and sporting facilities. You could even use it to set up a mini golf course. Check out the range and more information at www.ideal-diy-floors.com.au

HINT When ordering two or more rolls of turf be sure to ask for rolls with identical grain direction so it lays uniformly and appears more natural.



Adding the roadbase
Spread a layer of roadbase,
or crusher dust, to about
15mm deep. Distribute it evenly
with a steel rake then sprinkle with
water before compacting with the
whacker packer.



Laying the turf
Fill any surface dips or hollows with fine sand. Lay out the first roll of turf, allowing overhang at the ends. This will later be trimmed to match the contour of the paving.



Cutting to size

Trim the turf roughly around any garden edges and move it into position. Then use a utility knife, with a new blade, to trim accurately around the edges.



Casting the sand
Cast a layer of dry, white,
washed sand over the turf
with a shovel. This weights the turf
to keep it in position, and assists
with drainage.



Sweeping in the sand
Distribute the sand evenly
with a yard broom, sweeping
against the direction of turf fibres.
Cast more sand and repeat the
process until the sand is about
10mm deep. This is also the perfect
time to practice your chipping!



Forget watering
Put away the watering
can, as the natural-looking
turf will stay this way for years.
Just use a rake, broom or outdoor
vacuum to keep it tidy.

65

T