



## Establishing a Lawn from Seed or Sod

While lawns aren't as trendy and popular as they once were, you still find plenty of strips of green grass in most neighborhoods and on most properties. Lawns represent an easy to use, all-purpose space that works for most users.

There are essentially two options when it comes to establishing a lawn in a private property. Each has their own advantages and disadvantages, which must be weighed against the owner's priorities. The following are some of the Pros and Cons when it comes to choosing your starting point.

When it comes to establishing a lawn, whether from seed or from sod, it is critical to properly prepare the soil first. This means that you've worked the space up well, removed any rough or chunky things, added organic matter to the soil, and have levelled, packed, and rolled the soil before planting. Anything that is rough or uneven will show up in the finished product.

### From Seed

- ✓ Inexpensive
- ✓ Fairly simple to apply (on surface)
- ✓ Seed mixes contain various species = accommodate various conditions (light, moisture, etc.)
- ✗ Needs good soil (level / finely worked / packed)
- ✗ Germination, emergence, and plant stand/density can be variable
- ✗ Can take a considerable amount of time to establish fully
- ✗ Sensitive to physical contact for awhile
- ✗ Sensitive to heat, moisture, and wind stress

### From Sod

- ✓ Fast and fairly simple to install
- ✓ Ready-made coverage
- ✓ If installation is correct, produces good results very quickly
- ✗ Soil must be smooth, level, packed firmly
- ✗ All debris and irregularities must be removed
- ✗ Much higher cost per square foot
- ✗ High water requirement for good establishment
- ✗ Sensitive to drying and heat, initially
- ✗ Installation is high labour

