

TOP DRESSING GUIDE

PREPARED BY >



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Turf is top dressed mainly for leveling, and improving the soil around the root zone – when done in conjunction with aerating.

Step One

Aerating:

This can be achieved by the use of a coring tool. Place your foot on the base and press down. Coring should be done when the soil is moist, that is not wet and not dry. As you work with the corer the previous cores will start to be pushed out from the base. These can be either mixed with the top dressing and spread back in, or removed. Core holes should be approximately 4" or 100mm apart. This is the best method for aerating, as it will open up your lawn to allow air to the roots. This is essential after prolonged periods of rain such as in winter.



Step Two

How much Top Dressing to Order?

It is recommended that top dressing be carried out from early spring to early summer when turf is actively growing. The recommended application rate is to 10mm depth. A good method of determining the amount of top dressing to order is to multiply your area of grass by .01 (see below) .

e.g. $100\text{m}^2 \times .01 = 1\text{m}^3$ or approx 1.5 tonnes.
Alternatively 1.5 tonnes will cover an area of 10m x 10m. BC Sands has Premium Turf Gro for top dressing available for pick-up and delivery 7 days a week.



Spreading Top Dressing

It is best to mow your lawn prior to the top dressing application, to allow effective penetration. However, never mow more than 1/3rd of the green part of the turf. If the lawn is very thick, reduce the height over several cuts, a couple of weeks apart. After mowing rake to remove unwanted debris and loosen any bare patches.

The easiest way to spread top dressing is to start by shoveling it evenly around your lawn then use a lawn leveler or rake working in a figure 8 motion. This spreads it evenly over your lawn.

A fertilizer can also be applied at this time. Sir Walter Fertiliser is available in 4kg and 10kg tubs, and will cover 200m and 400m of turf respectively.

BC Sands has lawn levellers as well as corers for sale and for hire.

10 reasons to use Premium Turf Gro to top dress your lawn

- 1 Organic blend for turf underlay or top dressing
- 2 Great for clay or poor soils
- 3 Excellent drainage
- 4 Less risk of weed seeds than soil mixes
- 5 Does not cake
- 6 Avoid water run off
- 7 Open mix to promote roots
- 8 Provides nutrients
- 9 Improves soil structure
- 10 Water holding capacity

