



# LAYING SOD

## PREP DAY INSTRUCTIONS



### MATERIALS

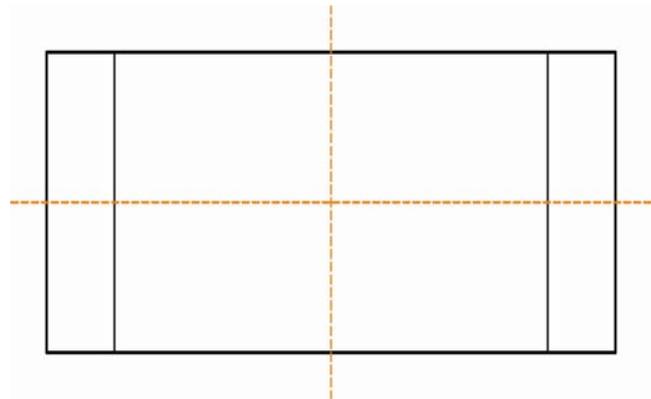
Sod, (2) 200' tape measures, marking flags, marking spray, string line

1. Before starting to work on the site, make sure that the area has been adequately prepared.

- All of the existing grass must be removed.
- Area should have a crown or slope of 1% to aid water drainage.
- If required by your soil pH, fertilizer should have been added to raise or lower the pH.
- A plan for maintaining and irrigating the area should be in place.

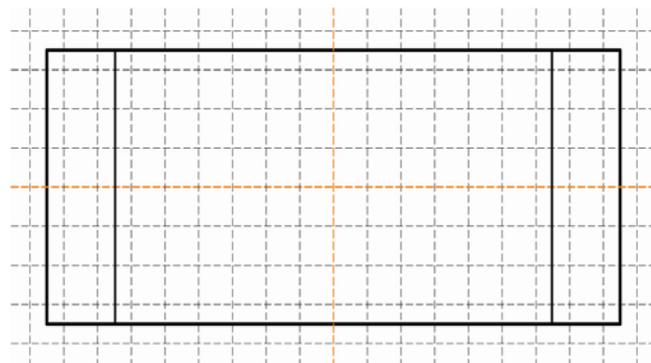


2. Start by measuring and marking out the entire area to be sodded. Use marking flags for the corners, and lay a string line down the center along both axes.



3. Work with your KaBOOM! Project Manager to determine the total square footage of your site. Calculate approximately how many square feet of sod comes in each pallet and divide up the area by that number. Create a plan for the placement of the sod pallets on the field so that each sod pallet can cover the area around where it is placed.

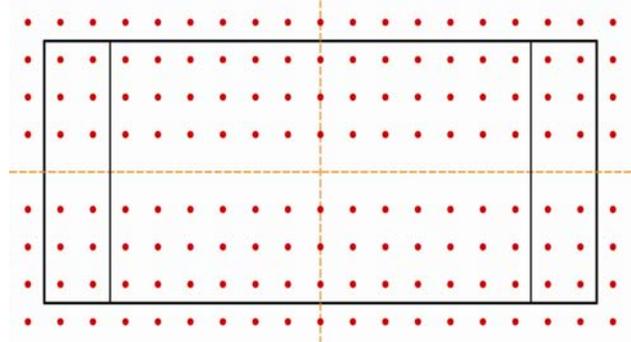
Remember that on Build Day you will not have a bobcat on site, so this is an important step to avoid having to move a lot of sod by hand if you are working to cover a substantial area.



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4. Based on the plan you just created, measure and mark the entire area with marking flags in each place where a sod pallet should go. In the diagram, each dot represents a sod pallet. Keep the center clear, as that will be where the first row of sod will go. Extra pallets should be placed along the outside of the perimeter.



5. Help ensure that during the sod delivery, the drivers respect the markings.





# LAYING SOD

## BUILD DAY INSTRUCTIONS



### MATERIALS

Sod, knee pads, knives

**Today you will be laying sod! Follow the instructions below and please consult your Build Captain if you have any questions during the day- and most importantly, have fun!**

1. First, lay down the first line of sod. Be sure to follow the string line to make sure it's straight.

As you lay each piece, have a volunteer rake out the area ahead of the sod line to break up and loosen the top layer of soil.

Once the first line is complete, if you are sodding a large area you should work out a strategy for different people on your team to complete different areas.



2. You will be working outwards from the center line towards the edges. The sod pieces should rest as closely as they can to one another, and should be placed in single columns as the volunteers work their way across the area. Once a column is complete, go back to the top and continue working your way back down. Divide up your team into loaders, carriers, placers, and quality control. Please handle the sod gently. It is a living plant and can die... and we do not want that to happen!



**CONTINUED ON THE OTHER SIDE →**

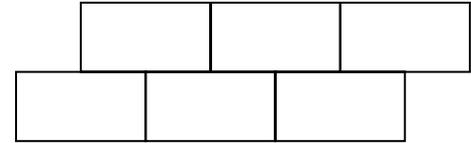


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## BUILD DAY INSTRUCTIONS

### 3. Quality control is your most important job!

- Lay each row of sod like a course of bricks (see diagram to the right) so that all of the edges are staggered. If you get to a point where the edges start lining up, cut a piece in half to re-stagger the edges and keep going.
- Keep raking the soil before laying down the sod to break it up. Remove any rocks or debris that you find.
- Make sure that all edges are butted firmly together and that the corners are flush. Overlapping edges will cause uneven turf and make rooting difficult.
- Use the knives to cut around the edges of the field, around any odd-shaped pieces and around sprinkler heads.
- Avoid walking on the newly laid sod until you have used a lawn roller.
- If a strip appears too low, “shim” or raise it with topsoil.



Sod Pattern



4. Once a large section of sod has been laid, roll it with a lawn roller. The roller removes air pockets and causes the roots of the sod to make firm contact with the soil underneath.



5. Start watering immediately after the sod is laid. Aim to spread about an inch of water over the turf.

6. Congratulations! You've just laid completed the sod-laying project. Thanks for all your hard work! Please clean up the work area, and return all leftover materials and tools to the tool area. Your team's Build Captain should then check in with a KaBOOM! Project Manager to see what else your team can help with!

