

Site preparation
Laying guide
Aftercare



Turfonline.

INSTALLATION GUIDE





Welcome to Harrowden turf

Welcome and congratulations...

For purchasing from Turfonline's range of superior living landscape products. Turfonline.co.uk is the ecommerce flagship for Harrowden Turf, the UK's leading turf grower.

This means that you will enjoy your beautiful lawn, wildflower meadow or green roof for years to come and be helping to protect our fragile environment.

We think that's worth celebrating - and we are here to help you every step of the way. We want your project to be a complete success!

If a job's worth doing...

As the saying goes, if a job's is worth doing, it is worth doing well, which is why we've put together this information booklet. It is your guide on how to prepare the site, lay your new turf or install your sedum matting with help for any common aftercare concerns.

If you follow our guide you will have a garden to be proud of. For more information you can also visit the Turfonline website which constantly updates online product information and through its Knowledge Base provides seasonal care advice.

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A perfect partnership!

Wherever you are in the UK, the chances are that you have seen, walked upon or in some way used at least one of the products grown by us. Harrowden Turf grows and supplies soft landscaping and green roofing materials for the UK gardening and landscaping industry. Our products include lawn turf, topsoil, wild flower matting and sedum matting.

From the moment we sow our seeds to the day we deliver our beautiful products to you, we have nurtured the young plants with love and expertise. Then it's over to you, but don't worry we are still here to help you complete your project and offer aftercare advice.

A national company with a local heart

Harrowden Turf Ltd brings together the country's finest turf growers. So wherever you are, you won't be far from one of our excellent farms.

Let's get started!

In this brochure you'll find everything you need to know about preparing your site, laying your turf or installing your green roof when it arrives. But if you have any questions at all, please just contact us.

All around the UK people experience our superior living landscape products every day. And now you are about to experience for yourself the benefits of choosing the UK's leading turf grower.



Preparing your site

1. Equipment

Please contact us to order your equipment in advance. For the best results we recommend the following:

Pre-turfing fertiliser: Give your new turf the best start by feeding the soil in advance. Our pre-turfing fertiliser contains essential plant nutrients from natural sources - no man-made chemicals – and is easy to apply in granular form. It also means that your new lawn will be quite happy with no additional feeding for a good two months. You will need approximately 20g per square meter this allows a coverage of 100 square meters from one bottle of 2kg.

Turfing topsoil: Having dug over the site (see page 4), a layer of topsoil will give the new turf the best chance to establish strong roots as quickly as possible. Our DEFRA Grade 1 turfing topsoil contains nutrient-rich and screened loam, fantastic for improving existing soils and easy to rake out to a smooth surface ready for your new turf. As a rule of thumb, 1 bulk bag of topsoil covers 30 square metres to a depth of one inch.

Turf-laying planks: Simple - but indispensable! This pair of 4-foot long planks will help you maintain straight lines, avoid walking directly on the turf and help distribute compression weight for really good soil-to-turf contact.

**Harrowden Turf
can be harvested
and laid all year
round, the only
weather that will
prevent laying in
a sharp frost
or snow.**



2. Ground preparation

Step 1: Using a fork or a rotovator, dig the soil well, removing all large stones, roots and other debris. If possible, leave the soil to settle for a few days – you can also remove any weeds that appear during this time.

Step 2: Level the soil by raking it (shallow dips and rises are fine but steep ones will make the lawn difficult to mow). Remove any additional stones that come to the surface; and if you are adding topsoil, do this after raking.

Step 3: It's now time to walk slowly up and down the area, letting your heels press down on the soil. This firms the surface but without compacting it. If you can get a friend to help it will save a lot of time! However, if it's very wet you'll just create mud, so wait for it to dry off a little first.

Step 4: Go over the area once more with a rake, working from different directions to create a smooth flat surface. If you're adding a pre-turf fertiliser, do this now and then rake it gently in to a depth of a few millimetres.

By preparing your ground in advance you will be ready to lay the turf as soon as it arrives. In Spring and Summer it is imperative to lay turf immediately upon delivery to avoid heat stress. Further information on laying turf during hot weather can be found [here](#).

Laying a new lawn is not difficult but preparation is everything! The aim is to remove stones, weeds and roots from the site and to improve the condition of the soil.



Laying your new turf

3. Laying turf

Step 1: Start from an outside edge – and lay the first strip widthways slightly overlapping the boundary (you can trim this back when you have finished). Press carefully to make good soil contact but without squashing the turf.

Step 2: Continue laying adjacent pieces until you have completed the first row of turf along an entire edge. If your delivery arrives on more than one pallet take turf from each pallet as you lay rather than laying a complete pallet and then moving on to the next. This will help to disperse any heat built up during transit.

Step 3: Now start the next row. If you need to stand on laid turf, use a plank to avoid denting or squashing it. It is important to stagger successive rows so that the short edges do not line up (they should alternate like the vertical joins in brickwork).

Laying turf is easy as long as you follow a simple logical process, starting at the edge and working inwards.

Step 4: Continue like this, butting and pushing the edges for a tight join but being careful not to stretch the turf.

Step 5: Finally you need to trim any untidy edges with an old woodsaw or sharp serrated knife – but remember to use the planks to avoid walking directly on the turf.

Step 6: Newly-laid turf must be watered well enough for the water to penetrate the soil but without turning it into a mud bath. You can gently pull back a piece to inspect the soil. In hot weather, be sure to water as soon as you have laid your lawn.

4. Looking after your new lawn

Watering: Your new turf must be kept moist until it has fully established. If it's not raining you will need to water it yourself. In hot, dry or windy conditions you may have to water twice or even three times a day; and water immediately at any sign of the turf drying out or shrinking.

If you do find yourselves not giving enough water and gaps appear in between the rows and joins of turf, then fill those gaps with soil/seed mix available from our website.

Eventually you will see healthy new white roots when you carefully lift a corner of turf, and you know these are established when it becomes difficult to pull back the turf.

Mowing: In spring and summer your new turf will be ready for its first mow in 7-10 to days. But make sure it's a gentle cut! You just want to top the grass, so raise the cutting height and use a grass box. Then continue to cut (twice a week in spring or once a week in summer), never removing more than one third of the current height.

If you have laid turf in autumn, follow the spring guidelines; but for winter-laid turf, top off only if it is still growing. Otherwise leave it until spring. And remember - always make sure your mower blade is sharp!

Feeding: If you have used pre-turfing fertiliser (page 5) your new turf will be happy for at least two months. After that, follow a regular feeding regime using the correct seasonal feeds (caution - applying the wrong nutrients can damage your lawn).

Troubleshooting: Grass is a very robust plant, and if you have prepared the site properly and followed our laying guidelines you shouldn't have any problems with your new lawn. However, you may notice a few natural phenomenon in the first few weeks while it settles in to its new environment.

After a few weeks it's not uncommon to notice **toadstools** popping up in the new lawn. This is nothing to worry about and is particularly common in autumn or warm and wet conditions and will soon sort itself out.

All soil contains dormant fungal spores. These can lay inactive for years and years – but when the soil is disturbed they can spring back to life and grow into toadstools. You don't need to remove them – they will disappear after a couple of mows without doing any permanent damage.

There are different types of toadstool and most have been tested and shown to be non-toxic. However, we advise you take

normal precautions to ensure that youngsters (and inquisitive adults) don't eat them, just in case.

Your new lawn might also develop **flowering seed heads**. Grass produces these naturally although they are more prevalent in the late spring/summer especially if the weather turns hot and dry (drought conditions).

When turf is harvested the majority of the root system is cut off. This is stressful to the grass plants and they produce seed heads as a means of self preservation. The seed heading will reduce once the new turf has established a new root system, which can take 6-8 weeks. Seed heading will also reduce if the new lawn receives adequate nutrients and is mowed regularly with a sharp blade.

For information about disease, weeds and pests that might infect an established lawn please refer to our aftercare guide. (Page 13).



Sowing lawn seed

1. Preparing the site

The lawn area needs to be well drained. If it suffers from water retention, it may be necessary to lay a soak away or drainage pipes. If a lawn is to be laid around a new build you can expect construction waste and should start by removing all large stones, blocks and any non-organic rubbish from the surface. Do not dig in any 'builders sand' left on the site - instead 'sharp sand' is required to condition soil.

A lawn grows best on well drained **medium loam**, if your soil is already like this, your preparation can be minimal, but if the soil is clay based or sandy, you'll need to consider the following steps.

With **heavy clay soils**, you should add sharp sand, this will help to improve the drainage under the lawn. With **sandy soils**, you should add well decomposed manure, compost or rotted leaves. This will improve moisture retention under the lawn.

The top soil needs to be prepared to give a fine, workable soil to a depth of 4 to 5 inches (10 to 12cm) - if you are adding organic material, you should aim for a minimum depth of 6 inches (15cm). Small areas can be prepared by hand using a spade but for larger lawns it is worth using a rotavator.

We put the same amount of care into our grass seed as we do our turf, so know that you will be getting the perfect seeds to sow yourself a truly beautiful and outstanding lawn.

When starting to prepare the soil, it needs to be moist, not too dry or wet. Start by digging or rotavating to the required depth, breaking down large clumps of soil and removing any stones or rubbish. When digging, work backwards so you don't compress the area you've just broken up.

Having turned over the whole site and broken down the soil, add half of anything you need to dig in, and dig over or rotavate again. Add the other material and repeat. Rake over the area to level it, removing any vegetation, stones or rubbish which appears before leaving it to settle for a week.

If a lot of weeds or vegetation appears consider using a non-residual herbicide to kill them off. Carefully follow the instructions and leave the soil for the recommended period before proceeding.

When starting to prepare the soil, it needs to be moist, not too dry or wet.

Once again rake over the site removing any debris and then tread down the entire area - starting in one corner. Walk slowly across the site placing one foot in front of the other, when you reach the other end, turn around and repeat until complete (if the area is large, ask for help from your friends or family). The first time you do this, you'll probably find some humps and dips, remove these by giving the surface a light raking and repeat the treading down.

2. Sowing the lawn seed

Sow the lawn on a wind free day, making sure to give the ground a final rake. Divide the quantity of seeds into two, (it is better to sow two lighter sowings rather than one heavier). If the area to be sown is large, you can divide the seeds further; this will reduce the chances of covering three quarters of the area and finding that all the seed has gone.

Sow one covering of seeds while walking in one direction, and the second sowing while walking at right-angles to the first covering. Lightly rake the seed into the top of the soil, you won't cover it all but try to cover at least half.

Seeding a new lawn requires the same preparation as laying turf. Follow the instructions on page 4 on how to do this

3. Aftercare

Grass seed should germinate and show within 7 to 21 days depending upon the weather, **do not** walk on it during this period. If a dry spell occurs use a gentle watering technique (a garden sprinkler or hose with a fine spray attachment pointed skywards) to keep the top soil moist. **Be careful** as too much water can float individual seeds into concentrations.

If possible, protect the area from birds and domestic pets, chicken wire is ideal but impractical for all but small areas so tin foil attached to string is a viable alternative.

When the grass is about 1 inch (2.5cm) high, gently roll the area with a light garden roller or cylinder mower (with the blades on the highest setting). Alternatively you can tread the lawn in the same way as previously. Leave mowing the grass until its about 3 inches (7.5cm) high and then lightly mow with the cutter set to about 2 inch (5cm). If not using a cylinder mower you can lightly roll or tread after cutting.



Top dressing your lawn

Topdressing the lawn is the process of adding a fine layer of 'home mixed quality soil' to the lawn surface. Top dressing benefits the lawn as it builds up the quality of the soil over a period of time, - sandy soils will be able to retain moisture better and so the lawn will be more resistant to drought, clay soils will be able to retain moisture better and so the lawn will be more resistant to drought, sandy soils will drain better thus improving root development.

Another benefit of top dressing the lawn is that it will help to even out any lumps and bumps that are present on an uneven lawn, filling in any small hollows that may develop. Top dressing also stimulates the grass to produce new shoots and so results in denser grass cover which helps combat the onset of weed and moss infestation.

Top dressing is carried out routinely by professional greenkeepers to ensure a top quality finish. If you want a really top quality lawn that can meet professional standards then you should top dress your lawn annually.

What topdressing mixture to use?

Harroden Turf have topdressing available to help maintain your lawn. Applying this 100% organic EverGreen Lawn Soil (commonly known as Lawn Dressing) will improve the root

Our sieved soil is ideal for top dressing and free from weeds and weed seeds.



zone of lawn grasses, as it reduces compaction and improves aeration. It encourages increased grass root activity which will improve the ability of the lawn to withstand hard wear and drought conditions. The organic matter will also help to maintain an acid balance in the soil which will encourage healthy turf growth and grass to thrive.

How to topdress the lawn?

In autumn spike the whole lawn area down to a depth of at least 8cm (3 inches) with a garden fork. Spread the EverGreen Lawn Soil (commonly known as Lawn Dressing) over the lawn with the back of a rake, working it well into the surface and into the holes that have been made, a single 25ltr bag should be sufficient to top dress 12 square metres. The Lawn Soil should be spread evenly so that depressions are filled and no new humps are created.

When to top dress the lawn?

You should top dress the lawn in autumn, ideally September to end November. Lawns which are based on poor soil will benefit from top dressing the soil each year. Lawns based on good quality soil should not need top dressing every year although if you want a really top class lawn then you may wish to do so.

Before lawn dressing spike the whole lawn area down to a depth of at least 8cm with a garden fork.



Feeding your lawn

A healthy lawn provides the perfect backdrop for any garden, a rich, living carpet of green. It is a fact that lawns benefit from regular feeding. Without extra nutrients grasses soon use up plant food reserves in the soil and then turn pale and thin. Without food to develop side shoots and thickness, the lawn is open to invasion by weed seeds and moss that thrive in low nutrient conditions.

On the other hand a regular supply of supplementary food makes your lawn thick and green, just as a well balanced diet helps children grow big and strong.

What lawn feed should I use?

Harrowden Turf has a range of professional lawn feeds (see *page 13*). You can feed your lawn at any time when it is actively growing and weather conditions allow.

In spring and summer your lawn will appreciate a treatment high in Nitrogen (N) as this promotes green growth. In the autumn you will need to apply a feed high in potassium which strengthens the grass in preparation for the rigors of winter. By applying autumn feed the lawn will green-up quicker in early spring.

A fertiliser spreader is useful tool to help apply the fertiliser accurately and evenly.

Feeding your lawn provides extra nutrients to keep your grass in the best possible condition.



When should I feed my lawn?

Feed your lawn at regular intervals throughout the growing season ensuring the appropriate fertiliser is used depending on the time of year. A healthy lawn that receives adequate nutrients applied at the correct time of the year is able to fend off weed infestation and disease.

For best results use a spreader that has controls for obtaining the required rate.

Important: Health and safety

Our range of feed is essentially non-hazardous and non-toxic but sensible precautions should still be taken. The buyer assumes all responsibility for safety and use not in accordance with directions.

- Avoid eye contact
- Prolonged skin contact may cause dryness
- Wear suitable gloves and face protection when handling
- Remove contaminated clothing immediately
- Wash hands and exposed skin before eating
- Could be harmful if swallowed
- Keep out of the reach of children
- Always store product in the original packaging



Our range of lawn feed products



Rapid Roots - Pre-seeding/turfing feed

Application: Harrowden Turf Rapid Roots - Pre-seeding or turf feed may be applied at any time of the year although we recommend avoiding hot weather or long periods of drought.

Avoid contact with all other surfaces including: paving, slabs, tiles, decking or clothing to avoid staining or discolouration.

Pre-Turfing: Apply to the prepared site at a rate of approximately 20gms per square metre. Work the fertiliser into the soil with a rake so that the granules are dispersed within the top 20-30mm, then proceed to lay your turf. For best results we recommend applying a further application 6 weeks after laying to provide nutrients for the first 6 months.

Lawn Feed: Before applying, mow the lawn at your normal cutting height. This should be approximately 25mm. After aeration or spiking of the lawn apply the fertiliser at a rate of 20gms per square metre evenly over the lawn.

If no rain falls two days after application, water in thoroughly. Keep off the lawn for three days. Normal mowing can then be resumed.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

N8-P4-K8 + 3% MgO, trace elements, seaweed, humates, zeolites

Total Nitrogen (N)	8%
Phosphorus Pentoxide (P ₂ O ₅)	4% (1.74% P)
Potassium Oxide (K ₂ O)	8% (6.64% K)
Magnesium Oxide (MgO)	3% (1.8% Mg)

BENEFITS



Nitrogen to promote leaf growth and Magnesium oxide to aid the production of chlorophyll to encourage lush, green colour



Phosphorus to keep the grass roots strong and healthy



Potassium to help your lawn fight disease and increase its water absorption



Humates and Trace Elements to stimulate Zeolites to increase nutrient retention meaning less nutrients are washed away. Seaweed to stimulate soil bacteria to help release nutrients to your lawn



Vivid Green - Spring/Summer feed

Application: We recommend applying Vivid Green feed twice per year. The first application in **March/April**, the second in **April/May** (8 weeks after the first). Ideally try to choose a time when rain is forecast but avoid any frosts.

Before applying, mow the lawn at your normal cutting height. This should be approximately 25mm.

If no rain falls two days after application, water in thoroughly. Keep off the lawn for three days. Normal mowing can then be resumed.

Avoid contact with all other surfaces including: paving, slabs, tiles, decking or clothing to avoid staining or discolouration.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

N20-P3-K8 +0.8Fe Mini Prill

Total Nitrogen (N)	20.0%
Phosphorus Pentoxide (P ₂ O ₅)	3.0% (1.26% P)
Potassium Oxide (K ₂ O)	8.0% (6.93% K)
Iron (Fe)	0.8%

BENEFITS

Your lawn needs feeding to maintain the correct balance of nutrients to enable it to maintain root and shoot growth for a thicker, greener lawn during this key growth period.



Nitrogen to promote leaf growth giving a lush, green appearance



Phosphorus to keep the grass roots strong and healthy



Potassium to help your lawn fight disease and increase its water absorption



Rejuvenator - Autumn/Winter feed

Application: Harrowden Turf Rejuvenator Autumn/Winter lawn feed is a balanced fertiliser designed for use on established lawns in the Autumn. Apply after aeration or spiking of the lawn. Ideally try to choose a time when rain is forecast but avoid any frosts.

Before applying, mow the lawn at your normal cutting height. This should be approximately 25mm.

If no rain falls two days after application, water in thoroughly. Keep off the lawn for three days. Normal mowing can then be resumed.

Avoid contact with all other surfaces including: paving, slabs, tiles, decking or clothing to avoid staining or discolouration.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

N2-P5-K19 +0.8Fe Mini Prill

Total Nitrogen (N)	2%
Phosphorus Pentoxide (P ₂ O ₅)	5% (2.05% P)
Potassium Oxide (K ₂ O)	19% (15.98% K)
Iron (Fe)	0.8%

BENEFITS

Your lawn needs feeding to maintain the correct balance of nutrients to maintain turf health and colour throughout the winter and conditioned for spring growth.



Nitrogen to promote leaf growth giving a lush, green appearance



Phosphorus to keep the grass roots strong and healthy



Potassium to help your lawn fight disease and increase its water absorption



Lawn care guide and calendar

Looking after your established lawn

Maintenance of your lawn now becomes your responsibility. Turf is a living product and therefore has certain basic requirements necessary to remain healthy. To help we've listed some common problems to watch out for.

Disease: The most common affecting grass is fusarium patch disease, noticeable as yellow-brown patches, and requires immediate treatment with a suitable fungicide. To ensure fungicidal penetration into the root zone this might have to be repeated more than once.

Pests: The leatherjacket grub, larvae of the crane fly, feeds on grass roots in the spring. They are not normally a problem unless the populations are very large. Earthworms are responsible for unsightly lumps of mud, worm casts, that usually appear in your lawn in autumn and early spring. The worms actually help aerate and introduce organic matter to the soil. The solution is to brush the casts off prior to mowing.

Weeds: Grass is a very competitive plant and if it's in a healthy state, weeds will find it hard to get established. However, weeds are opportunistic and therefore able to establish very rapidly if given a chance. Act quickly to identify the weeds and obtain the appropriate product or better still remove them using a small hand-fork.

Never forget that your lawn is a living thing and it needs a certain amount of 'TLC' in order to thrive.

Lawn Care Calendar

January – February



Growth slows right down so there's not much to do. Try to stay off the lawn in frost, and only mow if the grass is still growing. It's a great time for a light hollow-tine aeration to keep the soil oxygenated. And if you haven't serviced the mower and replaced/sharpened the blade(s), do it now!

March



The grass is now growing so you'll be out mowing regularly again – but start with a high cut and reduce this over a few weeks. If your lawn is covered in worm casts, brush these off first. Scarify and apply moss treatment to keep moss at bay.

Spring



By now you'll be cutting at least once a week, but never cutting more than one-third of the existing height. Give your lawn a spring feed – a nitrogen-based fertiliser will thicken up the grass and restore a rich green colour. You can also reseed any thinning patches.



Summer



Apply a summer feed and spot-treat any stubborn weeds. If the weather is hot, you can reduce mowing and raise the cutting height as well – you don't want to stress the grass. Watering isn't really necessary as the grass will recover from dry periods, but if you don't like brown patches, water in the early morning or late evening.

Autumn



Use an autumn feed and if necessary a weed treatment. And give your lawn another hollow-tine aeration to reduce compaction and let the rain and air back into the soil. You will begin to mow less often.

Worms are again likely to be active at this time of year so it is advisable to remove casts as required.

Winter



One last feed – a winter fertiliser with low nitrogen – and light mowing, and all that's left then is to keep the lawn free of fallen leaves and other debris.

Consider a feed that has iron to help strengthen the grass for the pending winter period.



Our range of living products

Harrowden's living landscaping

Planting up your garden with green living landscaping is good for your health and your wealth!

Research proves it – your mental and physical wellbeing increases when you spend time in the living outdoors; and a well-designed and maintained garden is known to add significantly to the value of your property. So that superb turf pays for itself twice over!

Concrete paving, artificial grass and even decking are falling out of fashion as people rediscover the joys of a living garden – and all the birds, butterflies and bees enjoy it too!

So, Harrowden doesn't just grow turf. We have an exclusive range of fabulous living products to help you add vibrant and beautiful life to every corner of your garden.

Enviromat groundcover

Enviromat is extremely versatile mix of flowering sedum plants chosen for their wide range of colour, texture and seasonal differences. A beautiful alternative to a traditional grass lawn it creates a spectacular ornamental groundcover that will add the wow factor to any landscape scheme.

**Enrich your life
and take your
garden to the
next level with
Harrowden's
complete living
landscaping
range.**





Meadowmat instant wildflower garden

When you're designing your new lawn, why not include a corner or even a central zone for wildflowers?

Meadowmat is a convenient, quick and easy way to establish a wildflower area in your garden. Specially selected mixtures of native and wildlife-friendly flowers and grasses and pregrown on a proven matting system. Available in five blends selected for their distinct look and purpose. It's like a private grass meadow of yesteryear on a roll that will attract wonderful wildlife and reward you with a natural floral display second to none.

Enviromat green roof systems

Enviromat sedum matting is a landscaping material used by architects, garden designers and roofing contractors to create lightweight living roofs quickly and easily.

With undemanding root systems and requiring minimal maintenance, Enviromat can be installed in the most unlikely places, both pitched and flat roofs, making it perfect for shed roofs, chicken houses and bird boxes. There's almost nowhere that can't be cheered up with these delightful little evergreen flowering plants. Bees love it too, so you'll be doing your bit to help our vital pollinating friends!

Enviromat and Meadowmat provide year round interest and delightful seasonal changes.





Installing living green roof

1. Where to use Enviromat

Enviromat is suitable for use on new projects or for retrofitting onto existing buildings but it must meet the following criteria.

- The roof must have a loading capacity of at least 120Kg/m². If you are at all unsure, please ask a local builder, surveyor or architect for advice.
- The roof must be well drained with no water pipes or guttering discharging on to it.
- For the sedum plants to survive, they will need to be in sunny spot. Shaded roofs are not suitable for Enviromat.
- The maximum recommended pitch for an Enviromat sedum roof is 20 degrees. If the angle of your roof is 10 degrees or more, you will need an irrigation system to help support the plants during long periods of drought. This may be as simple as making sure you have a hosepipe and sufficient water pressure to reach all areas of the roof.
- The surface of the roof should be smooth. Bear in mind that Enviromat must be in contact with the surface below it at all times. Air pockets will lead to dead patches in the sedum matting. Enviromat cannot be installed onto corrugated roof surfaces.

Enviromat is heavy and installation is a job for at least two people. Read the instructions carefully and have measuring tape, edgings and fixings, protective clothing, string line, Stanley knife with spare blades, handsaw, and hosepipe to hand.

3. On roof with less than 3° pitch

Step 1: Remove all debris from roof surface.

Step 2: When laying, start at one end of the roof and work backwards to avoid walking or kneeling on the plants. If you are using a pebble border, put the stones down as you go.

Step 3: On an asphalt type roof, put down a layer of thick polyethylene or butyl pond liner. This protects the waterproofing from root damage and isn't needed on EPDM or Fibreglass surfaces. Hint: If you wet the polyethylene/butyl when it is in place, it will be far less slippery to work on.

Step 4: If your roof has no upstand, it may be necessary to fit an edge detail to protect your Enviromat against wind-uplift. This must allow water to freely drain from the roof and should not compromise the waterproofing.

Step 5: Unroll the drainage mat on to the roof, open out the flap of geotextile on the bottom of the mat.

Step 6: Lay the next piece of drainage mat on top of the unfolded flap ensuring that the edges butt up close to each other.

Step 7: Lay your Enviromat on top of the drainage mat. Each piece has an extra flap of geotextile fabric folded onto its underside. When you lay your Enviromat, this flap needs to be unfolded so that it lays flat beside your sedum matting.

Step 8: Clean any debris off the flap and lay the next piece of Enviromat on top of it to anchor it down. Butt the pieces together as close as possible.

Step 9: Stagger the rows of sedum, lay in a "brick joint" pattern avoiding adjacent joints.

Step 10: At exposed edges it may be necessary to hold or weigh down the Enviromat all-in-one while you work to prevent the blanket being lifted by the wind.

Step 11: Don't worry if the sedum plants look a bit squashed when they're first installed, they'll soon perk up.

Step 12: Remove sedum and substrate from any extra spare cut-offs of Enviromat and use to fill in any bare areas. Note: If you have no choice and need to trim Enviromat whilst it is on the roof be careful not to cut through to the existing roof waterproofing.

Step 13: If installation takes place between 1st March and 30th June apply Enviromat Natural Green Roof Feed according to instructions. Note: Be careful not to overdose the roof.

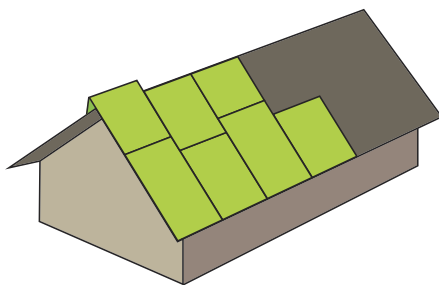
Step 14: Water the Enviromat thoroughly after patching and feeding. Watering should continue for four weeks after installation.

3. On roof with more than 3° pitch

Follow Steps 1-4

Step 5: If the design of the roof includes a pitch of 10 degrees and over, it's a good idea to use a retention mechanism such as Fixfast EdgeGuard™. This should be installed according to the manufacturer's instructions. (See www.fixfast.com).

Step 6: Lay your Enviromat All-In-One on to the roof. Pieces should be laid at right angles to the lowest edge of the slope. On an apex roof (for example on a garden shed) it's a good idea to lay rolls "up and over" the ridge, this helps with anchorage. See below.



Step 7: Each piece of Enviromat has an extra flap of geotextile fabric folded onto its underside. When you lay your Enviromat All-In-One, this flap needs to be unfolded so that it lays flat beside your sedum matting.

Follow Steps 8-14



Installing ground cover

1. Where to use Enviromat Ground Cover

Sedum matting is not just for green roofs, it makes a fantastic ground cover material that is drought tolerant, low maintenance and attractive to wildlife.

Enviromat sedum matting is quick and easy to install and can be at any time of year. If properly installed and given a minimal amount of TLC it requires very little to flourish, just a sunny spot, good drainage and a feed in spring time.

It is ideal as an alternative to a grass lawn in ornamental areas, for slopes and banks, path edging, pond surrounds, highway landscaping, walls, gabions and flower beds.

- To install you will need the instructions, roof edgings and fixings, measuring tape, hand saw, drill and protective clothing (including gloves).
- Enviromat is heavy, particularly when wet, so be sure that you can handle it and lift it safely.
- Enviromat is perishable and MUST be in-stalled on the day of delivery. If there is a delay between delivery and installation, please unroll your Enviromat so that the plants can see daylight, otherwise the product will degrade. We cannot accept responsibility for Enviromat damaged by improper storage.

Provided it has good drainage and plenty of sunshine Enviromat can be used for a wide range of ground cover projects.

2. On soil-less surface

Step 1: Remove all debris and ensure the surface is even and well drained. If some areas are prone to "puddling", apply a layer of sand then level and compact it.

Step 2: Install raised edging which needs to be at least 7cm deep. Edging **MUST** allow excess water to drain away.

Step 3: For a flat area, lay drainage mat across the area. Trim to fit as necessary. This layer is not needed on slopes greater than three degrees.

Step 4: Install layer of water retention matting at 90 degrees to the drainage mat (if used).

Step 5: Folded beneath each piece of Enviromat sedum matting, which is an all-in-one with water retention mat attached, is an extra flap of geotextile backing. When you lay your Enviromat, this flap needs to be unfolded and laid flat beside the sedum matting. The next piece of matting will be laid on top of the flap for extra anchorage.

Step 6: Water the plants to help them settle in. If you are installing between 1st March and 30th June, you should apply our Enviromat natural green roof feed before you water the plants. Apply at a rate of 30g per square metre. Our 2kg container will cover an area of 65m².

3. On ground

Step 1: Remove all debris and big stones, compact the surface so that it's nice and firm and ensure that the levels are even and the area is well drained. If some areas are prone to "puddling", apply a layer of sand then level and compact it.

Step 2: Lay a sheet of polyethene or butyl pond liner on top of the soil; this will stop perennial weeds pushing up from the soil below and it also helps to drought out any weeds that germinate amongst the sedum plants.

Step 3: Install raised edging which needs to be at least 7cm deep. Edging **MUST** allow excess water to drain away.

Step 4: For a flat area, lay drainage mat across the area. Trim to fit as necessary. This layer is not needed on slopes greater than three degrees.

Step 5: Folded beneath each piece of Enviromat sedum matting, which is an all-in-one with water retention mat attached, is an extra flap of geotextile backing. When you lay your Enviromat, this flap needs to be unfolded and laid flat beside the sedum matting... the next piece of matting will be laid on top of the flap for extra anchorage.

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Feeding your green roof

1. Why to use Enviromat Green Roof Feed

Enviromat Natural Green Roof Feed supports a beautiful and sturdy plant layer to make your green roof the best it can be. All living things need the right balance of nutrients to keep them growing well. Plants can't nip to the supermarket to get the food they need so they either find them in the soil or literally create them from the air.

On a green roof, there is a limited amount of growing medium to supply the nitrogen, potassium, phosphate and micro-nutrients that are vital to the plants' survival. It is vital that we, as green roof gardeners, make up the shortfall with supplementary feeding during the growing season. Hungry plants will find it more difficult to withstand the sometimes harsh conditions on a green roof.

Enviromat natural green roof feed has been developed so that green roof gardeners can ensure their plants stay in great condition with the minimum of fuss. The exact balance of nutrients meets all of the plants' needs and, being a lightweight granular feed, it's easy to lift onto the roof and apply accurately.

Enviromat natural green roof feed releases nutrients slowly, so in most cases, your roof will only need one or two applications per year.

**Feed your
Enviromat for
healthy robust
plants and
maximum benefit
for any living
green roof.**

2. When to use Enviromat Green Roof Feed

We recommend feeding your green roof as soon as the weather begins to warm up in spring, normally March-April. A follow up feed in early summer will help to prolong the flowering period and ensure plants are in good heart before the winter sets in. Green roof feed must be watered in within 24 hours of application.

3. How to use Enviromat Green Roof Feed

Recommended rate and application instructions can be seen below. Using a calibrated fertiliser spreader will ensure that the feed is applied accurately.

Although essentially non-hazardous and non-toxic please take sensible precautions. Wear suitable gloves and face protection avoiding eye and prolonged skin contact.

If you are at all worried about working at heights, accessing your green roof or carrying out essential maintenance tasks such as weeding, feeding and drain clearance contact a reputable green roof landscape contractor.



Enviromat natural green roof feed

Harrowden Enviromat fertiliser is a slow release organic sedum feed formulated for healthy robust plants and maximum benefit for any living green roof.

Application: Enviromat natural green roof feed may be applied at any time of the year but for best results, apply in early spring and again in early summer. Application rate is 30g/m² with each tub providing 65m² coverage.

IMPORTANT: Never exceed the recommended rate. This fertiliser must be applied to a dry product and then watered in as scorching may occur if applied to a wet leaf.

Avoid contact with all other surfaces including: paving, slabs, tiles, decking or clothing to avoid staining or discolouration.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

N8-P4-K8 + 3% MgO, trace elements, seaweed, humates, zeolites

Total Nitrogen (N)	8%
Phosphorus Pentoxide (P ₂ O ₅)	4% (1.74% P)
Potassium Oxide (K ₂ O)	8% (6.64% K)
Magnesium Oxide (MgO)	3% (1.8% Mg)

BENEFITS



Nitrogen to promote leaf growth and Magnesium oxide to aid the production of chlorophyll to encourage lush, green colour



Phosphorus to keep the Enviromat roots strong and healthy



Potassium to help your sedum fight disease and increase its water absorption



Humates and Trace Elements to stimulate Zeolites to increase nutrient retention meaning less nutrients are washed away. Seaweed to stimulate bacteria to help release nutrients to your sedum.



Enviromat

care and maintenance

Compared with many garden occupants, Enviromat is remarkably easy to care for. The propagation has been done for you, there's no need for daily watering and it doesn't need mowing or trimming. However, it's important to remember that low maintenance is not the same thing as no maintenance. To get the best possible performance from your Enviromat – particularly if it's on a roof – it does need a simple, twice a year, maintenance regime with a little bit of extra TLC during periods of prolonged drought.

Enviromat is remarkably easy to care for and surprisingly versatile.

Feeding: Sedum plants are very economical when it comes to fertiliser, however when they're growing in a shallow growing medium they do benefit from a twice-yearly application of Enviromat Natural Green Roof Feed. Ideally this should be done in early spring when temperatures begin to rise, and again in early summer to encourage flowering. See *pages 23-24* for more information.

Watering: In general, Enviromat is more likely to be damaged by too much watering than by too little. Sedum plants hate to have perpetually soggy roots. Having said that, Enviromat will tolerate heavy rainfall as long as it has proper drainage. If Enviromat is installed on a roof, it's vital to ensure that drainage outlets are cleared out at least once a year.

Enviromat will survive for a month or so with no watering and so most of the time, the British weather will absolve you of all watering duties but there are situations in which extra help is needed. Don't worry if the leaves turn red and appear to shrink, this is the plants' natural response to drought. However, if the leaves start to look wrinkled and rubbery then the plants need a good watering.

Weeding: Enviromat is supplied with a dense covering of plants making it difficult for the majority of weeds to find a space to germinate. However, there are always a few opportunists. If you have installed Enviromat to our recommendations with waterproof material beneath the Enviromat build-up, you will find that in high summer, the sedum plants will revel in the hot dry conditions whilst any imposters will languish and die. Any really persistent weeds can be pulled out by hand.

Bare Patches: When Enviromat leaves the production fields, approximately 95% of the matting will have a dense covering of plants. Occasionally though, small areas of the growing medium may become visible. Over time, the sedum plants will spread and fill in those patches. It is possible to speed up the process by breaking off little pieces of plant material from more dense areas and pressing them on to the bare patches. Within weeks, the 'sprouts' will have grown roots and established themselves.

Pests and Diseases: There are very few pests and diseases that affect Enviromat. It doesn't taste nice, so won't be eaten; it can't be dug into, so cats aren't interested; insects like Enviromat but rarely damage it and the thick waxy coating on the leaves deters fungal diseases, so Enviromat is remarkably trouble-free.

Enviromat Care Calendar

Spring (March/April)

- Clear drainage outlets.
- Ensure roof structure is in good condition, paying particular attention to any mastic sealing and mortar pointing. Any areas that need repairing should be attended to appropriately.
- Remove any debris and fallen leaves etc.
- Hand weed unwanted plants/tree saplings.
- Apply Enviromat Natural Green Roof Feed and water in immediately with a sprinkler or hand-held spray gun. For sloping roofs, an additional application may be needed in early summer.
- Use sedum cuttings taken from abundant areas to repair any bald patches, pressing them gently into the substrate and applying a light sprinkling of sand mixed with compost. A gentle watering will speed the establishment of the cuttings.

Autumn (October/November)

- Clear drainage outlets.
- Ensure roof structure is in good condition, paying particular attention to any mastic sealing and mortar pointing. Any areas that need repairing should be attended to appropriately.
- Remove any debris and fallen leaves etc.
- Hand weed unwanted plants/tree saplings.
- Remove any plant encroachment towards drainage outlets and other unwanted areas.



Installing Meadowmat

Your Meadowmat is freshly cut and **MUST** be laid as soon as it arrives. So first you need to do all the necessary preparation.

Step 1: Once you have chosen your location, use sticks or other aids to mark out the size and shape of your meadow. Remember to view this from all angles to imagine how it might look (and make one last check that there aren't any large overhanging trees to impede the sunlight).

Step 2: If your meadow is replacing an area of grass, you must remove this either with a spade or a turf-cutting machine. You need to remove 'slices' of turf, so make vertical cuts to a depth of 3-4 inches, creating square or rectangular shapes; then slice horizontally two or three inches below the surface just beyond these vertical cuts. Finally use a spade to carefully separate the turf from the ground, rolling it up as you go. These rolls of unwanted turf can be left to rot down in a corner of the garden for compost. If your area has other plants – bushes, shrubs, weeds etc – these must be completely removed as well. **NB:** if you are worried that you may not have removed ALL the weeds and vegetation, you can apply a systemic weed-killer such as glyphosate and leave the area for at least three weeks before digging over the soil.

You don't need any special tools to create your meadow. A garden fork and spade, some watering equipment and maybe a few planks of wood (so that you don't walk on the area)

Step 3: Wild flowers need soil which is poor in nutrients, and this also helps to keep the grasses under control. Most cultivated areas in your garden will be too rich and you will have to remove the top soil. If you're not sure, can you answer 'yes' to any of these:

- Has the area has been used for gardening or farming?
- Do stinging nettles and docks flourish?
- Is the soil nice and crumbly when moist?
- Is the soil a good dark colour?

'Yes' to any of these indicates a rich, fertile soil which will need to be removed. But to be absolutely safe, remove the top soil anyway.

Step 4: Remove the top soil to a depth of at least 10cm, being careful not to disrupt any cabling or pipework in the ground. Don't worry about the ground level dropping as the meadow will never be cut lower than about 4 inches.. The soil you remove can be useful in other parts of the garden – in the vegetable garden, topping up tubs and planters, scattering around trees and shrubs, or giving away to grateful neighbours.

Step 5: Step 4 above should be sufficient to reduce the fertility of the soil, but if you are not able to remove all of the good soil, you can replace what you did remove with low-fertility soil, ideal for wild flowers. We sell low-fertility soil because it can be very hard to find (after all, most gardeners want the opposite!). While it adds to the overall cost, it buys you peace of mind and adds to the performance of your meadow matting.

You might think that sorting out the soil is just too much of a challenge, but we offer these tips because not reducing the soil's fertility is the most common reason for a potentially wonderful meadow going wrong.

Step 6: Next you need to rotovate or dig over the site to create a 15cm layer of fine tilth (just as you would for a normal seed bed). But remember NOT to add any compost or fertiliser! Then rake the surface to make it level. Resist the instinct to water the ground. The drier it is, the more accurately you can check that the first watering goes right through to the soil (see step 9).

Wild flowers need soil which is poor in nutrients.

Step 7: When laying Meadowmat you follow exactly the same method as for laying grass turf (see step 5). However, Meadowmat rolls are heavy so it might take two people to carry them. You must avoid walking on fresh matting, so always try to work backwards, and if you do have to walk across newly-laid matting, try to use a wooden plank to spread the load.

Unroll a piece of matting roughly in position, then gently manoeuvre it into place. Do the same with the next piece, butting it up against the first, and so on. If you have oddly shaped corners, leave these to the end, cutting them from your leftovers.

Step 8: It is really important to keep your new matting moist, right down to the soil below. And because you shouldn't walk on it, you may need a good sprinkler or hose pipe to reach the entire area. As soon as the matting is laid give it a very good watering; gently lift a corner to check that the water has drained through to the soil. You must keep it well-watered for a good three weeks, maybe more, until the matting has 'bonded' to the soil.





Meadowmat

care and maintenance

Looking after your wild flower meadow

Once you have created your own wonderful wild flower meadow you only need follow a few simple guidelines for meadow maintenance and your meadow will give years of pleasure. The guidelines are much the same for all our Meadowmat varieties. There is little difference in the work and time you will spend looking after them.

Before farming was industrialised, meadows were the dining rooms for the farm's livestock. From late Summer to early Spring, the animals were left to graze in the meadows before being brought indoors to give birth and suckle their young. During this brief springtime respite the grasses were able to do some serious growing, ready to be cut in late Summer and stored as nutritious Winter hay.

Today, maintenance is pretty much the same, amounting to little more than the annual cut; and of course if you have a goat or a donkey to graze your meadow you won't even need that! However, to keep your meadow at its happiest, there are a few simple guidelines to follow, especially as you, unlike the farmers of yesteryear, will want to help the flowers thrive and not be overrun by grasses. Your Meadowmat will thrive if you follow the following advice.

Enviromat is remarkably easy to care for and surprisingly versatile.

1. Reduce soil fertility For once you don't have to worry about your soil being in poor condition! Most of our beautiful native wild flowers are happiest when growing on poor soil. With too much nutrient, the grasses will thrive but only the strongest species of flower will be able to compete. Any soil maintenance you do will be to stop it from becoming too fertile, mostly by removing all clippings, dead vegetation and fallen leaves from nearby trees.

2. Suppress the grasses Even with poor soil the grasses tend to be the most competitive members of your meadow. Unlike the farmer, however, you want to keep these under control so that your flowers can thrive too. Meadowmat includes grass-suppressing plants like Yellow Rattle, but you can also use carefully timed mowing to help maintain the ideal balance of plants in your meadow.

3. Maintain ideal flower conditions As well as reducing soil fertility, you need to create the best all-round environment for your wild flowers. This includes maintaining suitable light or shade and moisture levels, as well as mowing correctly to allow the wild flowers to set their seeds ready for the next growing season.

4. Discourage unwanted species Weeds are eternal chancers! Create some new growing space and they'll sniff it out and try to take over; and it's no different with a meadow. If you use ready-germinated Meadowmat you prevent this happening, but if you start with seed you will need to be vigilant. And over time, of course, seeds from unwanted plants will be delivered by birds and by the wind, but if your meadow is in good condition they won't pose any serious threat.

5. Encourage a range of species Although both our Meadowmat roll and our wild flower seeds are carefully designed to provide a rich balance of plants, you may want to add some of your own too. You can sow seed or add plants or bulbs, and the seasonal guide on pages 13-14 will advise when it's best to do this.

Cutting

It is important to remember to remove the clippings when you cut your meadow. This ensures that they don't fertilise the soil and make it too rich.

Tools: For a small meadow you can simply use a strong pair of garden shears, for a medium meadow you can use a sharp scythe. For larger areas, however, you might want to use special equipment. If you use a domestic lawn mower it must be able to cut at least 10cm from the ground. Alternatively, as we do at Harrowden Turf, you can use a machine like the Grillo mower with a collection box.

DO NOT use a strimmer as this will scatter tiny pieces of plant over the area which will break down and add unwanted nutrients to the soil.

When to cut: Our Meadowmat care calendar on page 31 will help you to decide when to give your meadowmat a cut. Whenever you do, choose a dry sunny day and ideally when the forecast predicts a few more days dry weather. This will help the cuttings to dry faster before you remove them.

How to cut: Make sure the blade(s) on your shears, scythe or mower are sharp. Cut the grasses and flower stalks about 10cm above the ground. Leave the cuttings lying on top of the meadow for a couple of days to dry out (this makes them easier to remove and allows time for the seeds to drop). You can turn and shake the clippings after a day to help any ripe seeds fall onto the meadow ready to germinate.

Finally, when the cuttings are dry, give them one last shake and then remove them. It makes great hay for small pets but be sure there are no toxic plants in your mix.

After cutting and removing: Depending on the weather your meadow may look sad and bedraggled for a while, but don't worry! As soon as the rain comes the plants will soon recover and green up again. Whatever you do, **DON'T** be tempted to add fertiliser to help it along.



Meadowmat care calendar

Spring

Mowing: If you feel that your Meadowmat meadow was too grassy last season or that soil fertility is too high (look out for too much grass and signs that some of the flowers are struggling to compete) then you can mow your meadow in early-to-mid March (see *page30*). This is in addition to the regular autumn cut. If you have the Birds and Bees Meadowmat, you should already have cut in late-winter.

Remember to remove the clippings to prevent unwanted soil fertility and to allow sunlight to reach the smaller seedlings. At this time of year the clippings will be short so you don't need to leave them to dry before removing; just use a rake to gently tease them away, being careful not to disturb any young seedlings.

Growing: Allow your meadow to grow freely from March/April, and **DON'T** add fertiliser or feed of any kind.

Sowing: If you want to add some extra seed to your meadow, Spring is a good time for sowing annuals like bright blue cornflowers, sunny yellow corn marigolds and bright white corn chamomile. First rake over the area you plan to overseed, removing any debris and scuffing up the surface of the soil a little. Then sprinkle the seeds sparingly onto the bare soil and press them in lightly.

Your established meadow doesn't need much attention in Spring.

Summer

The summer months of June and July see your meadow looking its very best! You can admire the beautiful flowers and the delicate butterflies while being serenaded by the industrious buzzing bees! Meanwhile there is not much work to do – except preparing for the annual cut.

Mowing: The big annual mow for Traditional Meadowmat is really an Autumn job, but sometimes your meadow is ready by late Summer – you will know the time has come when you see the grasses turning a honey colour and the flowers turning into seed heads.

You can also mow early if you feel you have too many grasses in your plant mix. Cutting grasses early, while still lush and green, has a much stronger impact although you may have to sacrifice a few late flowers this time round. However, if you have the Birds and Bees Meadowmat, you must delay your annual cut until late Winter; the plants have been carefully selected to give you (and the birds) some beautiful seed heads throughout the Autumn and into the Winter.

Growing: Leave your meadow to grow during May and June and you will be rewarded with a plethora of gorgeous flowers. And don't be tempted to feed them! They'll do fine as they are and won't thank you for enriching the soil. If you spot unwanted plants like nettles or dock, simply pull them out.

If you have a large area you might want to bring out the mower early to cut a path through the meadow. This lets you get up closer to the flowers and the wildlife without crushing them. You can cut your path as low as 5cm but as always remove the clippings! Foraging birds like the blackbird will value the shorter grass, as will low-growing flowers (and their visitors) such as nectar-rich clover, birdsfoot trefoil and common daisy.

Sowing: Wild flower seeds are unlikely to germinate at this time of year, so sowing is not a good idea. You can however lay new Meadowmat turf to fill in or create new areas.

Autumn

If you have the Birds and Bees Meadowmat – the Autumn is simply the time to enjoy watching the wildlife visit the wonderful seed heads; you can also do some amazing photography when the first frosts appear!

But if you have the Traditional Meadowmat, autumn is an important house-keeping time, preparing for the following year. In days gone by this is when the cattle would have been grazing on the golden grass. Assuming you don't have cattle, the biggest job is the mowing (if you haven't already done this), along with managing the species of plants in your meadow and preventing the soil from becoming too fertile.

Mowing: This is the main cutting time for Traditional Meadowmat (but remember to leave the Birds and Bees variety until late Winter). Exactly when you do it will depend on our increasingly changeable weather, but once your seed heads are well established, you can mow your meadow. Aim for a cutting height of no less than 10cm and remember to remove the cuttings once dry. You may find you need to do a second cut later in the Autumn if the grasses grow back too vigorously.

You also need to be vigilant and remove falling leaves from nearby trees and bushes before they begin breaking down and feeding the soil. If you have a grass box on your mower, you can gather them this way and deposit the finely-cut leaves in your compost.

Growing: Once you have cut your meadow, just leave it to begin growing back. **DON'T** feed it!

Sowing: Autumn is the best time of year to lay new turf as it can then establish during the Winter. You can also sow seeds; some varieties will germinate within a few weeks while others (like yellow rattle, very useful for suppressing over-enthusiastic grasses) need to rest in the soil until the frosts awaken them and give you springtime seedlings. See 'Spring' for advice on how to sow. You can also carefully add adult plants and set bulbs now to overwinter in the soil.



Winter

Meadowmat plant species are hardy throughout the year. During winter your meadow simply looks after itself, leaving you with little or nothing to do.

Mowing: For Traditional Meadowmat you will already have cut your meadow in the Autumn. However, if the Winter is mild and the grasses keep growing you can mow again; just remember to keep a height of 10-15 cm and don't scalp the plants – and always remove the cuttings before they feed the soil!

For Birds and Bees Meadowmat, late winter (February -March) is the time for your big mow. Your aim is to clear whatever is dead and decaying and leave room for the emerging plants and new seedlings to enjoy the sunshine. Cut back your meadow to 10cm, and remove the clippings and any dead vegetation.

Growing: You won't see much growth during the Winter; some plants may even disappear altogether! Don't worry – there's plenty going on underground as the roots and then shoots get ready for their Spring burst.

Sowing: Winter is not a good time to sow seeds but you can lay new Meadowmat as long as the ground isn't frozen.

**During winter
your meadow
simply looks after
itself, leaving you
with little or
nothing to do.**

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Flowering times vary according to weather conditions, microclimate, plant species and time of installation. To guarantee summer flowers, install before the end of March. This allows plants to settle their roots and grow flowering stems.

[illegible][illegible]



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