

Wildflower Sod™

Installation Guide



Questions?
Contact our team, we're here to help.

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01 Eliminate all existing grasses, weeds and vegetation from the site. Effective methods include sod-cutting, repeated soil cultivation, smothering, solarization, and chemical treatments. Thorough site preparation takes weeks or months to complete and is an important part of a successful meadow installation.

02 Rake cleared area to create a reasonably fine bed, ensuring there is at least 4" of soil or growing medium beneath. Remove large stones, roots or clods of earth to ensure that roots in the sod can be in contact with the soil.

03 Install sod within 24 hours of receipt. Sod size will vary depending on which Meadow Lab site it is coming from, but is generally delivered in a slab that ranges in weight from 36 to 48 pounds depending on maturity and moisture content. Wildflower Sod™ is not as dense as turfgrass sod and exposed sward is typical to allow for continued growth.

04 Lift sod off the pallet by lifting carefully by the corners (folding them over can help reduce tearing), or rolling and lifting off the pallet (best when sod is wet, heavy, or young). Typically this requires two people.

05 Lay sod carefully side by side in a staggered, brick-like pattern, ensuring that there are no folds, wrinkles, or air pockets. Push edges tightly together so that all seams are butted up and do not overlap. Do not stretch or fold slabs to fit. Sod can be trimmed to size with a knife, pruners, or a spade. If netting is exposed at this step, that is okay—it will be covered later with Finisher.

06 Dress joints, spots of exposed netting, and any exposed topsoil around the edges with Meadow Lab's Finisher. Finisher is a pre-seeded growing medium that is designed to make installations client-ready. It creates an optimal germination environment for wildflower seedlings and has a light mulching effect.

07 Water the sod thoroughly immediately after installation. Lift a corner of the sod to check that the soil beneath is damp, confirming it has been adequately watered. Continue watering daily for 2-3 weeks (weather dependent) until the sod has rooted. Do not allow the sod to dry out during the establishment period.

08 Check for root development by pulling up a corner of the sod. This can take 1-2 weeks in summer, or several months in winter. You should see roots starting to establish and knit into the soil.

09 Once established, sod requires little maintenance beyond an annual maintenance mow. For best results, refer to our Wildflower Sod™ Maintenance Guide.

Do not:

- ✗ Leave pallets uncovered in rain or sun
- ✗ Water sod on pallets
- ✗ Store sod on pallets longer than 24 hours
- ✗ Overlap sod pieces
- ✗ Fold sod pieces