



DESIGN. CRAFT. PRESERVE.

THE GREEN-UP ROADMAP

Whether you choose the instant gratification of sod or the cost effective journey of seed, the first 90 days determine the life of your lawn. Follow this professional timeline to ensure your investment takes root.

PHASE 1: THE GROUNDWORK (Weeks 1-2)

Preparation is 90% of the battle. Do not skip these steps.

- **Professional Soil Test:** Check pH levels and nutrient deficiencies before planting.
- **Clear the Slate:** Remove all debris, old turf, and weeds to eliminate competition.
- **Rough Grade:** Ensure the ground slopes away from your foundation (min. 2% slope).
- **Soil Amendment:** Till in 2-3 inches of organic compost to improve drainage and nutrition.
- **Fine Grade:** Rake smooth to remove "clods" and low spots where water might pool.

PHASE 2: THE CRITICAL WINDOW (Day 1 - Week 4)

THE SEED PATH

- **Day 1:** Spread seed evenly using a broadcast spreader; lightly rake to cover (1/8 inch deep).
- **Weeks 1-3:** Water 2-3 times daily for 5-10 mins. Keep the top inch of soil consistently moist.
- **Week 4:** Watch for "Green Fuzz." Reduce watering frequency but increase duration to encourage deep roots.

THE SOD PATH

- **Day 1:** Lay staggered rows (like bricks). Ensure tight seams with no overlaps.
- **Day 1:** Roll the sod with a water-filled roller to ensure direct root-to-soil contact.
- **Weeks 1-2:** Heavy watering once daily. Lift a corner; the soil underneath should be muddy.

PHASE 3: THE LONG GAME (Months 2-3)

- **The First Mow:** Wait until grass reaches 4 inches. Set mower to 3 inches—never cut more than 1/3 of the blade.
- **The First Feed:** Apply a high-phosphorus "Starter Fertilizer" at the 6-week mark.
- **Traffic Control:** Keep heavy foot traffic, kids, and pets off the area until the 8-week mark.
- **Transition:** Move to deep, infrequent watering (1 inch of water per week in a single session).



PRO TIP: *If you can poke your finger into the soil and it feels dry 2 inches down, your roots are thirsty. If it's soggy, you're overwatering. Balance is key to preventing fungus!*

Ready for a Professional Touch?

If the prep work feels overwhelming, let the experts at Boulder Creek handle it. Mention this guide for a Free Lawn Prep Consultation.



Contact Us Today for a Consultation

☎ 218-260-4356



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