



CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF SYNLAWN® BRAND TURF

Your AstroLawn® turf represents a significant investment of money. By following these care and maintenance guidelines, you can help protect your investment and extend the useful life of your AstroLawn® brand turf.

The following procedures are key in helping to preserving your turf.

- **Keep it clean**
- **Brush periodically**
- **Do not abuse**
- **Report any problems promptly to your AstroLawn® dealer**

I. **KEEP IT CLEAN**

A. Dust, pollen, and airborne pollutants

Rainfall is the best cleanser. In areas where rainfall is scarce, an occasional water flush is beneficial to cleanse the turf. For lightly soiled areas, it may be necessary to sponge mop with a five (5) percent solution of low sudsing household detergent in hot water followed by a thorough rinsing with hot water. For heavily soiled areas, repeat procedure for lightly soiled areas follow with sponge mopping using a three (3) percent solution of household ammonia in hot water followed by a thorough rinsing with hot water.

B. Stains and other blemishes

The first rule is promptness. It is always easier to clean up a fresh spill than one that has dried and hardened. Remove any solid or paste-like deposit with a spatula or table knife. Blot up excess liquids with paper towels, a clean cloth, or a dry absorbent, such as kitty litter or fuller's earth. Dry absorbents can then be swept or vacuumed up afterwards.

Synthetic fibers have good resistance to staining. However, it is important to realize they are only one part of a sophisticated system of various components designed for overall performance. Some cleaning agents safe for the face fibers can be harmful to other components of the turf system. Therefore, cleaning agents are grouped into two sets, one of which can be used in liberal amounts directly on the turf surface, and the second of which should only be applied by rubbing a cloth soaked in the cleaner in order to minimize penetration of possible harmful agents below the turf surface. In the first group of cleaners which generally can be applied without any special precautions are the following:

- "Simple Green", a bio-friendly cleaner. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- A warm, mild solution of granular household detergent or any low sudsing detergent for fine fabrics. Use approximately one teaspoon to one pint of water. This will handle most waterborne stains including:

Coffee	Ketchup
Tea	Butter
Fruit juices	Alcohol
Vegetable juices	Cola
Milk	Water colors
Cocoa	Latex paint
Ice Cream	Blood
Mustard	Urine
Glue	Dye

- A three (3) percent solution of ammonia in water may be used in lieu of household detergent for more stubborn stains.
- Do not use cleaners that contain chlorine bleaches or caustic cleaners (ph above 9) or highly acidic cleanses (ph below 5)
- Rinse area thoroughly with clean cold water to remove any traces of soap or ammonia
- Blot up excessive liquid

The second group of cleaners, where agent must be applied sparingly and care taken to avoid penetration beneath the turf are the following:

- Mineral spirits or a grease spot remover like perchlorethylene (dry cleaning solution) of the type sold by most variety stores and supermarkets. In general, cleansers in this category should handle most oil-based stains including:

Asphalt and tar	Chewing gum
Cooking oil	Shoe polish
Floor wax	Lipstick
Motor oil & grease	Paraffin wax
Ballpoint ink	Nail polish
Suntan oil	Crayon

Caution: mineral spirits and other petroleum based solvents are flammable. Do not smoke or permit open flames near where these are being used.

Be sure the area is well ventilated where solvent cleaners are used.

C. Animal waste

Although all AstroLawn products are pet friendly, there may be additional maintenance necessary to keep odors to a minimum. Allow waste to dry and then dispose. If rainfall is not frequent in your region, hose down the pet area regularly to promote the drainage of urine and keep the surface clean. Consider use of deodorizing and cleaning products such as Simple Green or Nature's Miracle that are pet safe. A mixture of white distilled vinegar in an equal amount of water can also be used. Flush thoroughly with water after application.

D. Chewing gum or Tree Sap

In addition to dry cleaning fluid, chewing gum and tree sap can be removed by freezing. Aerosol packs of refrigerant are available from most carpet cleaning suppliers for this purpose, or dry ice can be used. After freezing, scrape with a knife.

E. Fungus or mold spots

A one (1) percent solution of hydrogen peroxide in water can be sponged on to the affected area. Flush thoroughly with clean water after application.

F. Oil paints and more difficult stains

Please consult your AstroLawn® dealer as these may require a commercial carpet cleaner.

II. PERIODIC BRUSHING

The frequency for suggested brushing is directly related to the amount of foot traffic you have in your turf area. Matting of fibers may occur in areas of high foot traffic, especially if fibers have become soiled with dirt and other airborne pollutants.

Periodic “cross brushing” of the turf can help restore the aesthetic appearance of the turf. “Cross brushing” means all brushing activity takes place against the grain, nap, or sweep of the turf fibers. By brushing against the turf, the fibers are “fluffed up”. A brush with synthetic bristles should be used. Never use a brush with metal or wire bristles as these will change the turf fibers.

Take note to heavier trafficked areas for matting of fibers that might appear different than other areas that do not see heavy traffic. Brushing these areas is highly recommended, as it will ensure the full life of your AstroLawn. Brushing cannot hurt the turf. Brush as often as needed, keeping in mind that the more traffic, the more frequent the brushing.

High traffic areas might include but are not limited to:

- Commercial Applications
- Multiple dogs
- Heavy play activity by children
- Paths in the yard that are traveled often

III. DO NOT ABUSE

Although your AstroLawn® brand turf is made of tough, durable fibers, certain precautions should be taken to prevent damage to the turf.

- Lighted cigarettes cannot ignite the turf, but they can damage the turf by fusing the tips of the fibers together. Cigarettes, fireworks, and open flames should be kept away from the turf.
- Furniture and equipment with sharp or jagged edges should not be placed on turf as this may puncture or tear the turf.
- Never leave a parked vehicle idling on the turf.

- Cap off or remove nearby sprinkler heads. Water from sprinkler systems can leave mineral deposits on turf that may cause discoloration.
- Make sure turf is not exposed to reflected sunlight windows as this may fuse the turf fibers together.

IV. REPORT ANY ISSUES/PROBLEMS

Minor problems can become major problems quickly if not corrected. Any problem should be reported promptly to your local AstroLawn® dealer.

V. CONCLUSION

The proper care and maintenance program can enhance the aging, usefulness, and aesthetics of your AstroLawn® brand turf. Ask your AstroLawn® dealer about their low cost maintenance program.

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