

Drivable Grass® - Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Installation

Step 1

Plan and Prepare.

Decide where you want to install Drivable Grass®
Draw and measure the area.

Go to www.soilretention.com for design ideas and installation methods.



Once you have decided the size of your installation, determine how deep you need to dig and estimate the amount of materials needed. The depth depends on the project area's soil type and the proposed use. Don't forget to include the thickness of the Drivable Grass® mat (1.5"), and the bedding layer (2"). See Table 1 & 2 below.

TABLE 1- Base Thickness Requirements

Existing Soil Type	Pedestrian Load Areas Pathways & Patios	Light Load Traffic Areas Residential Parking & Driveways	Medium Load Traffic Areas Motor Homes, Boat Trailers, Delivery Vehicles
GRAVEL & SAND: Coarse-Grained Soils • Soil Drains Well	Base: Not Required Total Thickness: 3.5 inches	Base: Optional Total Thickness: 3.5 - 7.5 inches	Base: 4 inches Total Thickness: 7.5 inches
SILTY SOILS: Fine-Grained Soils • Soil Drains Poorly	Base: Not Required Total Thickness: 3.5 inches	Base: 4 inches Total Thickness: 7.5 inches	Base: 6 inches Total Thickness: 9.5 inches
CLAY SOILS: Very Fine-Grained Soils • Soil Doesn't Drain	Base: Optional Total Thickness: 3.5 - 7.5 inches	Base: 6 inches Total Thickness: 9.5 inches	Base: 10 inches Total Thickness: 13.5 inches

TABLE 2



Check with your local suppliers for the best regional materials.

Step 2

Excavate and Compact.

Mark the area using a string line, powdered chalk, or spray paint.

Excavate the area and compact it.

For driving use, place a geotextile fabric on the area if the native soil is clay or silt.

Install your irrigation, drainage, and lighting systems within the area. This is also the time to install any required edging.



Step 3

Install the Base and Bedding Layers.

Fill the area with base material and compact with a mechanical compactor.

Add the bedding layer. The bedding layer is a blend of 75% clean sharp sand and 25% fine ground compost. The bedding layer should be approximately 2 inches thick.

For non-planted installations with aggregate infills, the bedding layer is to be 0.25" to 1" clean sharp sand (ASTM C33) for leveling.



Step 4

Level, Then Install Drivable Grass® Mats.

Spread the bedding layer and screed it. You can use a 2"x 4" board sliding on pipes to achieve a level surface.

Similar to installing tiles, installing Drivable Grass® in more than one axis at a time could result in a significant alignment problem. Securely butt mats up against each other – leaving no gaps. Be sure to check the alignment in both directions, and make minor adjustments to ensure straight lines.



The grid inside the Drivable Grass® mats can be cut with a utility knife or chisel to fit site conditions. At terminating edges or curved installations, the mats should be fit with a masonry blade on a rotary saw.

If you need to use partial mats, place them near the edges where driving is limited.

Lightly compact the finished surface with a mechanical compactor. To protect the concrete, cover the steel plate of your compactor with a fabric.

Step 5

Fill and Seed.

Fill the Drivable Grass® mats with the same bedding material as used above. Use a broom to spread the material evenly and leave the soil mixture 1/4" below the top of the Drivable Grass® surface.

Broadcast grass seed evenly over the Drivable Grass® mats. Contact your local nursery to determine the best seed mixture for your region's climate and proposed use.

Lightly cover the grass seed with a top dressing made of organic material and keep moist to secure germination.

When installing sod, completely cover the Drivable Grass® mats with about 1/4" of the soil mixture above the surface of the Drivable Grass®. Then place the sod over the soil, water lightly and roll with a landscape roller.

For non-planted aggregate infills such as 3/8" minus gravel or less first sweep/infill the first 1/2" of the mats with sand (ASTM C33) to fill in joints between mat edges. Then add gravel infill to mats above sand infill.

* NOTE: With vehicular driving, staking of the Drivable Grass® mats is required. Please see appropriate typical staking detail.

Step 6

Finishing.

Keep the soil moist to establish the new grass.

Mow the project area for the 1st time when the grass reaches a height of 2 to 3 inches. Wait until you have mowed the project area twice before driving on it to protect the grass.

You can drive on sod in about 2 weeks when the roots have grown below the mats.

You can drive on alternative infill immediately.

