

# **MAINTENANCE GUIDE**

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

It is the responsibility of the owners of Lady Jane to read and adhere to the Maintenance guidelines stated below. Failure to do so may affect the product warranty.

This covers all areas which are for the lawn, landscaping, children's safety areas, pool surrounds, road sides, roundabouts and many other applications

Lady Jane Synthetic Turf is used and has a close interaction with the end-user (interactive surfaces) it needs to be maintained on a regular basis in order for it to provide the best possible appearance/ performance characteristics and product lifespan.

However other products, which are installed in large landscaping areas (non interactive surfaces) require much less regular maintenance, however some maintenance must be carried out. There are some perceptions that artificial surfaces are maintenance-free, as opposed to natural turf surfaces, which require intensive maintenance.

The reality is that artificial surfaces require less maintenance than natural surfaces.

This guide outlines the important parts of maintaining the installation in good condition.

A crucial tip for maintaining the surface is to do a little often, rather than neglecting maintenance procedures for months and then facing large expenses to restore the surface to its optimum conditions. Neglecting to maintain the surface will affect the warranty.

## **EARLY MONTHS OF SETTLEMENT**

It will take between 2-3 months for the surface to reach its optimum condition. The reason for this is to allow the infill materials to fully penetrate and settle into the turf structure.

During the installation, it is the installer's responsibility to ensure an even distribution of infill materials over the entire surface. Those made responsible for regular maintenance are advised that light grooming on a regular basis during this settlement period will aid the surface in reaching its optimum condition. Heavy brushing must be avoided.

Lady Jane in some situations may not require infill materials, but it is still important to brush these products on a regular basis in order for the pile surface to remain upright.

For Lady Jane we recommend using a medium soft bristle brush for the life of the installation.

#### **BRUSHING THE SURFACE**

Some infill may appear on the pile surface from time to time, but this only requires light brushing to restore it to the turf structure. The main reason for brushing is to stimulate the top fibres, aiding them to stand erect.

For interactive surfaces brushing must take place on a regular basis. We recommend the brushing take place at least once every month. Brushing needs to be undertaken in a number of directions. It is important that the synthetic turf pile is maintained vertically, as the soft fibres in the surface are designed to be more exposed than with other synthetic grass systems.

Therefore regular brushing is an important function that must not be neglected. The surface should be brushed in a number of directions alternating the direction in consecutive activities.

For non-interactive surfaces, brushing is only necessary when removing organic matter or weed control.

## **DEBRIS**

For interactive surfaces, debris should be removed from the surface on a regular basis, i.e. once or twice a month. This is best accomplished by hand and brushing. It is important to prevent organic matter building up in the turf structure. Build up of such matter will affect the drainage of the surface and also encourage weed growth.

However non-interactive areas where the product is a landscaping product around trees and brushes, wait until the autumn leave drop has finished and clear all leaves and organic matter. During the rest of the year clear the surface at least every year quarter.

# **VEGETATION ON THE SURFACE**

For all applications Moss / weed killing should take place once a year to ensure that the surface does not accumulate vegetation on the surface. The moss / weed killer agent must be a water-based systematic weed killer such a Glyphosate or Roundup. Please also ensure that when the moss weeds have died off, dead matter, including roots, is removed or in the case of moss swept out of the turf structure.

#### **STAIN REMOVAL**

Most stains can be removed quickly by the use of hot tap water containing a solution of household detergent such as washing up liquid. Heavy oil marks can be removed using mineral spirits and a cloth.

## **ANIMAL FAECES**

Interactive areas animal mess should be removed straight away manually, and the area washed down with the use of hot tap water containing a solution of household detergent such as washing up liquid.

Non-interactive areas should be cleared regularly; the Faeces will not damage the surface but will work into the structure. The longer it is left the harder it will be a clean out.

# **VEHICLES ON THE SURFACE**

No vehicles with narrow wheels or tyres should run over the surface. At all times, vehicles should be light and should not form grooves in the surface or over compaction of the base formation. It is not recommended that vehicles of over 1 ton travel over the surface; all vehicles must be fitted with wide, low-pressure tyres (8 to 10psi).

### **PROHIBITIONS**

The following should not be allowed on the surface.

- (i) No glass, tin or ceramics, these sharp objects can bury themselves into the turf structure and could cause injury and damage the surface.
- (ii) No smoking or fireworks, although the products do have fire retardancy safety ratings. Open flames and extremely hot items will melt the pile surface and permanently damage the surface
- (iii) No chewing gum, this can be removed by freezing the gum and chipping it off the surface, but it is recommended to avoid this situation.
- (iv) No vehicles, except maintenance vehicles.



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