

*The homeowner's guide to*  
**Artificial Grass**



Central Landscaping Services





## *Are you wondering if artificial grass is a good solution for your garden?*

**If you're anything like most of our customers, you'll probably have many questions regarding the benefits of artificial grass, and whether or not installing it can help solve your problems.**

Perhaps you're currently experiencing drainage problems with your garden, or maybe your lawn is simply too high-maintenance for your needs.

It could even be that your dog is constantly digging up your lawn and leaving it in a mess - hardly ideal.

Regardless of the reason, artificial grass can be a great, hassle-free solution that can keep your garden looking fresh and clean all year round.

By reading this ebook, you'll learn:

- **A brief introduction to artificial grass**
- **The problems artificial grass can help solve**
- **The alternatives to installing an artificial lawn**
- **The benefits of installing artificial grass**
- **The downsides of installing artificial grass**
- **12 questions to ask before having an artificial lawn installed**



## *A brief introduction to artificial grass*

**Artificial grass has come on in leaps and bounds in recent years, and many homeowners now choose this solution for their garden due to the fact that it's realistic, needs very little maintenance, and keeps their garden looking in perfect condition.**

You can use it all year round, and it can provide a child and pet-friendly way to add value to your property. It's even ideal for golf lovers, and there's no chance of fading or discolouring over time, as it is fully UV-protected.

This means it retains its lush, green colour, and we also offer an 8-year guarantee against fading.

# The problems artificial grass can help solve

Below, we're going to look at some of the biggest problems artificial grass can help you solve:

## 1. Mud and mess

If your children or pets are constantly coming through the house with dirty feet and paws, and your grass is starting to look a bit thin in areas, installing artificial grass could eliminate the problem.



**The risk of doing nothing:** Your garden could deteriorate further, and you might not be able to get as much use out of it.

## 2. Drainage issues

Having to deal with puddles and a soggy garden all year round? If your garden is failing to drain, you may have to look at alternative solutions. All quality artificial grass is perforated, so any excess water will drain through.

In addition, all reputable companies should install a fully porous sub-base, underneath the grass, which will allow any rainwater to drain straight through, eliminating puddling.



**The risk of doing nothing:** Your drainage issues could worsen, and you could lose out on a safe outdoor space for children and pets to play.

## 3. High maintenance garden

Especially if you have a busy lifestyle, physical constraints or are away for long periods at a time, you may like the appeal of not having to mow and maintain your lawn. A high-maintenance garden isn't ideal for everyone, and artificial grass eliminates the need for frequent maintenance.



**The risk of doing nothing:** Your garden could become overgrown and could get to the point where it becomes unmanageable.

# The problems artificial grass can help solve

## 4. No safe area for children

Ideally, children need a safe space to play without risk of injury, so if your garden is mainly concrete slabs, chips or decking, you may worry about their safety.

If this is the case, you can opt to have a shockpad layer installed underneath artificial grass to create a soft, cushioned surface for kids to play on. This will eliminate injury if a child falls over.



**The risk of doing nothing:** Injury or accidents that could otherwise be prevented.

## 5. Garden constantly in the shade

If your garden is always in the shade due to surrounding high trees, walls or buildings/sheds, it can be impossible to grow a luscious natural lawn. Artificial grass is not affected by weather, giving you a gorgeous green lawn all year round.



**The risk of doing nothing:** Your grass may die off without nourishment from the sun, and ultimately turn to moss.

## 6. Discoloured patches

Does your garden have unsightly yellow stains due to your pet's urine? This can be unpleasant to deal with, and often you'll find replacing it with a fresh natural lawn will only result in the same problems over time. Artificial grass won't discolour, and is completely pet-friendly.



**The risk of doing nothing:** The discoloured patches could eventually affect the whole area.

## 7. Tenants don't look after the lawn

If you're a busy landlord who owns several properties, but your tenants just don't look after your lawn, artificial grass can be a good solution to keep your grass looking good all year round, with minimal maintenance.



**The risk of doing nothing:** Having to pay garden companies for expensive monthly fees to maintain your garden.



## The alternatives to installing an artificial lawn

It goes without saying, artificial grass isn't for everyone. Below we've listed some of the main alternatives to artificial grass:



### Real (natural) lawn

Natural lawns can be perfect in the right situation, but if you're having any of the issues like the ones mentioned above, it can be a struggle to keep it in good condition.



### Concrete/paving

Another solution is concrete or paving. This will still require basic maintenance, and not everyone finds it aesthetically pleasing. It's also not particularly child-friendly.



### Decking

Decking can look lovely when first installed, although it requires a lot of maintenance to keep it looking clean. It can also get quite slippery when there's been a bit of rain.



### Decorative aggregates (stone chips)

Finally, stone chips are probably the least popular solution to a maintenance-free garden. They aren't particularly child-friendly, or easy to walk on, and there's the danger that young children or pets could swallow stones. Cleaning up after your dog also isn't ideal!



## *The benefits of installing artificial grass*

### **Curious about some of the benefits you can expect from installing artificial grass on your property?**

Here are some of the biggest benefits, in a nutshell:

- **Low-maintenance - no need for mowing, frequent gardening**
- **Pet-friendly - no patchy urine stains or thin sections**
- **Completely safe for children - a clean, soft surface for them to play on**
- **UV protected - quality artificial grass should never discolour**
- **Helps combat drainage woes with a drainage layer installed beneath**
- **No need for chemicals such as pesticides or herbicides**
- **Usable all year round - no mud or mess when it rains**
- **Realistic - looks just as good as natural grass**



## *The downsides of installing artificial grass*

**There aren't many downsides of installing artificial grass in your property, but here are some of the main ones you should know about:**

- You may have to put up with a bit of upheaval whilst your grass is being installed
- Cost - artificial grass can be a bit of an investment, especially if covering a large area
- Artificial grass can melt but won't catch fire when exposed to extreme heat or hot objects - artificial grass is fire retardant but not fire resistant
- Some are put off by the idea of it being 'fake' - although these days, high quality artificial grass is virtually indistinguishable from real grass



# 12 Questions to ask before installing an artificial lawn

**Are you thinking artificial grass could be the ideal solution for you?**

## 1. How much will it cost?

This is important to know right away to ensure your artificial grass solution will definitely be in your budget. Bear in mind most installers will only be able to give you an accurate cost by conducting a home visit first.

To give you a rough idea, a high-quality artificial grass product should cost between £20 - 30 + vat per square metre for supply only and £55 - £65 + vat per square metre for supply and Installation.

## 2. Will I get a fixed-price quote?

Getting a fixed-price quote will ensure that you'll always know exactly how much you'll pay upon completion of the work - with no hidden extras or nasty surprises at the end! A reputable company should be able to provide you with a fixed-price quote.

## 3. Will my artificial grass be pet-friendly?

If you have a pet, it's important to know that your new investment will be 100% pet-friendly before agreeing to your installation. Most good quality artificial lawns should be safe for pets.

## 4. Will my artificial grass be safe for children?

Getting a fixed-price quote will ensure that you'll always know exactly how much you'll pay upon completion of the work - with no hidden extras or nasty surprises at the end! A reputable company should be able to provide you with a fixed-price quote.

## 5. Will my artificial grass help with my drainage issues?

Especially if you're currently having problems with drainage, you need to be certain that your chosen solution comes with a drainage system that will help solve the problem. In most cases, your artificial grass will come with a porous sub-base.

## 6. How long will my artificial grass take to install?

It's important to know how long your artificial grass will take to install - especially if you're on a tight timescale or looking to take time off work while the process is being carried out. On average, you can expect your installation time to be between 1 - 2 days.

# 12 Questions to ask before installing an artificial lawn

## 7. Will my artificial grass fade in the sun?

Always check that the brand of artificial grass you're investing in won't discolour over time. You should expect zero discolouration when investing in a good quality artificial lawn, and a genuine guarantee against fading.

## 8. Will my artificial grass come with a guarantee?

You'll want to have peace of mind that your grass and workmanship will be fully guaranteed, and know how long you can expect your guarantee to last. A good guarantee should cover your grass for around 8 years.

## 9. What life expectancy will my artificial grass have?

It's always good to know how long your artificial grass should last for, as there's nothing worse than having to fork out for a replacement just a few years' down the line! Most quality artificial lawns should last around 15 - 20 years (with regular maintenance).

## 10. Will I still have to deal with pesky weeds?

Your chosen installer should be able to provide you with all you need to know regarding your artificial lawn's maintenance, and how to avoid the growth of soft surface weeds.

## 11. Will you remove the old grass and take it away?

The last thing you'll want is to be left with all your old grass and soil, so ensure your chosen installer will remove the old grass and dispose of it. Otherwise you'll need to hire a skip! Most reputable installers should take away any garden waste and leave your property tidy.

## 12. Will you need access to my house?

You will need to know in advance whether or not you'll need to be there for the installation - especially if it involves taking time off work. Most reputable installers should not need access to your house, unless the only access to your garden is through your property.



**TIP:** We always recommend choosing a reputable company whose work you are able to see first-hand. They should also ideally be registered members of trade affiliations.

# Could artificial grass be an ideal solution for you?

If you'd like to find out more about getting award-winning artificial grass installed in your home, contact CLS today for a free, no obligation quote.

One of our friendly team will be able to listen to your needs, and arrange a visit to your home at a time that suits.



Central Landscaping Services



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## Looking for an experienced installer to fit your artificial grass?

Get your free guide on what to expect when hiring CLS for a hassle-free lawn today.



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