

ACTGLOBAL™ Ten Tips for Purchasing Synthetic Landscape Turf:

1 KNOW YOUR SUPPLIERS. Research the seller to understand their reputation and stability. Check their website, local Registrar of Contractors (ROC), business registrations and research any complaint records online. Most companies should be licensed, bonded and insured.

2 CHECK REFERENCES. Know the company's business history and ask for installation references, both recent jobs and ones that are several years old.

3 LOOK FOR INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS OR MEMBERSHIPS. Are they members of the Synthetic Turf Council (STC) and other industry organizations? STC Members must comply with a Code of Ethics and remain in good standing in the industry.

4 CONSIDER INTENDED USE. Artificial turf comes in many varieties, colors, heights and densities. A higher foot traffic area, such as a backyard, will require a denser, more durable product than an area with very little foot traffic. A playground or pet area may require a shorter pile height and less infill.



5 FOLLOW STC SYNTHETIC TURF QUALITY BUYING GUIDELINES.

Understand terms such as face weight, pile height, primary and secondary backing, tuft bind, and recommended guidelines for each. For example, most products have total face weight of between 40 to 100 ounces per square yard, and a tuft bind of at least 6.8 pounds. Refer to STC's "Considerations When Buying Synthetic Grass for Landscape Use", available on their website for download.

6 OBTAIN TEST REPORTS AND PRODUCT DOCUMENTATION. Many companies make promises about their product. Reputable suppliers should provide documents and test reports that back the claims. Look for documents which verify the face weight, coating, backings, UV testing and tuft bind.

7 UNDERSTAND TERMS OF WARRANTY. An eight-year warranty is standard industry practice. Review all terms, including type of damage covered, for how long and under what conditions. Understand procedures for filing a claim, and how complaints will be handled.

8 OBTAIN COPIES OF THE INSTALLATION PLAN, TURF AND INFILL SAMPLES. This could include seaming materials, infill, synthetic turf, base materials and weed barrier. The turf sample should identify where the turf was manufactured and the name of the product and manufacturer. Verify the turf received for installation closely matches the sample retained.

9 GET EVERYTHING IN WRITING. This includes warranty, contracts and installation plans. Get in writing that the product you selected is the product that will be delivered.

10 ASK FOR MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES. These can include recommended tools, frequency of maintenance, procedures for cleaning up spills, dealing with snow and ice, and more.

