



# FIFA Quality Concept

for Football Turf

Step by step to a  
FIFA Recommended  
football turf field

# FIFA®

*For the Game. For the World.*

In recent years, football turf has emerged as the best alternative to natural turf for playing football. Thanks to technical enhancement of the products, installations and maintenance, today's football turf also meets the game's highest standards. FIFA is responsible for quality assurance and safeguards the highest quality through its FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf. The key to assuring quality is not only to consider the quality of the football turf product, but the entire installation process. The „FIFA RECOMMENDED“ quality mark is awarded when the pitch has been installed successfully and assures outstanding pitch quality and the ultimate in comfort for the player. For further information, go to [www.fifa.com/footballturf](http://www.fifa.com/footballturf).

The following step-by-step guide is aimed at helping you install your FIFA RECOMMENDED pitch. Please bear in mind, however, that it cannot replace the professional assistance of an architect or engineer. The FIFA Preferred Producers would also be glad to assist and advise you in selecting the ideal solution. For a list of contact details, go to [www.fifa.com/fpp](http://www.fifa.com/fpp).



Ajax Amsterdam training center

## STEP 1

# Composition of the substrate

The suitability of the football turf depends on the product's compatibility with the site and the builders' requirements. It is equally important that the characteristics of the substrate are suitable. After all, a sports pitch requires a solid foundation.

Except in the case of existing stadiums, we recommend that you carry out the following checks and carry out soil-drilling tests if necessary.

### General information

- Is the site in question abandoned, lived on or undeveloped?
- Could the site be chemically contaminated?
- Could there be any gas pipelines?

### Topography and other factors

- What kind of geological substrate exists?
- Is the land composed of solid rock or scree?
- What type of vegetation is found in the surrounding area?
- What is the topography of the area (e.g. a basin or a hill)?
- Where are the electricity and water connections? Has the site been developed?
- What level of precipitation is expected?

### In the stadium

- Where are the entrances to the pitch and the dressing rooms situated?
- How far is the pitch from the stands?

For more information about planning a stadium, refer to the FIFA manual *Football Stadiums – Technical recommendations and requirements* (available at [www.fifa.com/footballturf](http://www.fifa.com/footballturf)).

## STEP 2

# Choosing a football turf producer

You can choose to have your FIFA RECOMMENDED football turf pitch installed either by a FIFA Preferred Producer or a FIFA licensee. The difference is that FIFA Preferred Producers have the **civil engineering, project management and maintenance expertise** required to install top-quality football turf pitches, and can therefore be assigned the role of general contractor. We recommend that you obtain several quotations so that you can compare products and prices. You should request the following from the producer:

- a product description based on your needs (the products must have passed the FIFA laboratory tests)
- a description of how the product will be installed (method statement)
- a reference list detailing which pitches have already been installed using this product.

We also recommend that you inspect a pitch that has already been installed using the product before making your purchase.

For an overview of all FIFA Preferred Producers and FIFA licensees, go to [www.fifa.com/fpp](http://www.fifa.com/fpp) and [www.fifa.com/footballturf](http://www.fifa.com/footballturf).



## STEP 3

### Contract and implementation plan

The contract should be based on a clear definition of the expected quality level FIFA 1 or 2 STAR Recommended.

- Negotiate fixed prices with all parties whenever possible.
- Take the legal requirements into account, especially safety regulations.
- Take out all the required insurance cover in time.
- Ensure all parties agree to the details and schedule of the installation plan.
- Ensure the ecological compatibility of your football turf pitch.
- Agree with the other parties involved on a software program for planning your installation.
- Agree with the other parties involved on a common plan of action for installing your pitch.
- Establish clear rules about liability for errors during the installation phase.
- Clarify all guarantee issues relating to the various tasks being carried out and the quality and subsequent maintenance of your pitch.

## STEP 4

### Installation phase and costing

The **installation phase** can roughly be divided into the following five areas:

- Baseworks/Earthworks
- Drainage
- Sub-base (E-layer, Asphalt, underground heating, surface irrigation)
- Synthetic surfacing
- Installation of sport equipment (goals, bench)

Your **costing** should include not only the construction phase but also the costs of maintaining the pitch. Use the following guide when drawing up your plan:

- Baseworks/Earthworks
- Asphalt
- E-Layer (if desired)
- Underground heating (if desired)
- Surface irrigation (if desired)
- Synthetic Grass
- Sport equipment
- Maintenance equipment
- Running Costs/replacement costs



Oosterenk Stadium

## STEP 5

# Delivery and certification of the installed football turf pitch

Draw up a list covering the points set out in the contracts and check each one off during final inspection of the installation. It is important to obtain a copy of the FIFA certificate with the “FIFA RECOMMENDED” quality mark in order to ensure the quality of the installation. It is also vital to maintain the pitch regularly to ensure its long-term playability. Guidelines on how to maintain football turf pitches correctly can be downloaded at [www.fifa.com/footballturf](http://www.fifa.com/footballturf).

In addition to ensuring compliance with the contracts, it is also essential to ensure the pitch’s compliance with national and international requirements, e.g. the size of the pitch and its markings. The sports equipment used must also comply with the applicable safety regulations. In the case of international matches, this can be checked by referring to the Laws of the Game. In the case of domestic competition matches on football turf, it should be checked with the relevant member association.



Football turf field at Queenstown Secondary School

## Contact:

For detailed information please contact FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf at the address below:

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