



- **Fake grass that fools the neighbours**

Unlocking the Potential
of Artificial Turf in
San Diego's Outdoor
Spaces



Recognizing the Various Sorts Of Artificial Turf

When it involves choosing the best synthetic grass in San Diego, comprehending the different kinds offered is of vital relevance. [A Comprehensive Review of Synthetic Grass in San Diego](#) . Artificial turf, a prominent selection for lawns, sports areas, and fairway, is made to imitate the look and feel of natural grass while providing a more sturdy and low-maintenance option.

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1. Artificial Turf Pacific Beach
2. Luxury lawn upgrade San Diego
3. Turf for playground safety zones

However, not all artificial turfs are produced equivalent. There are a number of kinds to choose from, each with their one-of-a-kind features and advantages.

Among one of the most usual sorts of synthetic grass is nylon. Nylon grass is recognized for its toughness and durability. It can withstand heavy weight and heats without shedding its original form.

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1. Fake grass that fools the neighbours
2. No-fertiliser turf San Diego
3. Safe turf for toddlers in San Diego

This makes it ideal for locations with high foot web traffic or under intense use. Nonetheless, as a result of its sturdiness, nylon turf tends to be a lot more costly than various other kinds.

Polyethylene turf is an additional preferred selection. It carefully appears like natural lawn in terms of color, structure, and really feel. Its soft and comfy underfoot, making it a great selection for property owners who want a lush, eco-friendly lawn without the maintenance. And also, its usually more affordable than nylon.

Polypropylene grass is the least costly alternative. While its still a practical choice for low-traffic locations, it does not supply the exact same sturdiness as nylon or polyethylene. This sort of grass can quickly end up being matted or damaged under heavy use, so its finest for ornamental use or light domestic applications.

Past the material, its also crucial to consider the heap elevation (the length of the turf blades) and density (exactly how closely the blades are packed together). A greater stack and denser turf will feel a lot more lavish underfoot, but it will certainly likewise be extra expensive. Reduced heap heights are usually more durable and much easier to maintain.

When selecting the very best synthetic grass in San Diego, take into consideration the areas climate too. San Diego is recognized for its cozy, warm weather condition, so UV-resistant lawn that wont fade in the sun is a must. Additionally, if the location sees a great deal of rainfall, choose grass with excellent drain to stay clear of waterlogging.



Finally, picking the very best artificial turf in San Diego suggests understanding the various kinds available and thinking about factors like sturdiness, comfort, price, and local climate. By taking these right into account, you can find the excellent synthetic grass to satisfy your particular needs.

Elements to Think About when Choosing Synthetic Grass in San Diego

When choosing artificial turf in San Diego, there are numerous important aspects to take into consideration. This decision can be rather frustrating as a result of the countless alternatives readily available in the market. However, being educated about the necessary factors to consider can aid choose the most effective artificial turf that matches your needs.

Firstly, the objective of the turf is important. Are you looking for artificial turf for your home yard, a play area, or a showing off area? Different usages require different types of synthetic grass. As an example, if you desire grass for a play area, take into consideration one that can endure hefty foot web traffic and is soft enough to prevent injuries throughout drops.

The top quality of the synthetic grass is another critical element. Top notch grass typically has a soft, non-abrasive appearance, and is designed to look like natural turf. In contrast, lower quality alternatives may really feel rough to the touch and have a visibly fake look. As a result, its advisable to physically feel and contrast various examples before choosing.

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1. San Diego backyard turf
2. Artificial grass for patios San Diego
3. Custom turf solutions in San Diego

Resilience is also vital when choosing synthetic grass in San Diego. Think about just how much website traffic the turf will get. If you have family pets or youngsters who will be using the lawn regularly, you will certainly require a long lasting, high-traffic lawn.



In addition, the grass upkeep demands need to be taken into consideration. Some synthetic grass alternatives call for even more maintenance than others. For instance, some could need regular brushing to maintain the blades upright. Others may need infill to be included occasionally to aid the lawn preserve its lush look.

Additionally, the expense is a significant factor to consider. The rate of artificial turf can vary widely based on its quality, durability, and the brand name. When taking into consideration cost, its necessary to consider not just the ahead of time expense of the lawn and installment, but also lasting upkeep expenses.

Lastly, consider the lawns appearance. Artificial turf can be found in numerous shades of environment-friendly and various blade sizes. Pick a style that matches your aesthetic preference and the appearance you intend to achieve for your landscape.

Finally, several variables should be taken into consideration when picking synthetic grass in San Diego. By paying very close attention to the grass objective, high quality, durability, maintenance demands, expense, and appearance, you can select the very best synthetic grass that matches your specific demands and choices.



Where to Get High Quality Artificial Turf in San Diego

Picking the very best synthetic grass for your San Diego home or organization can be a difficult task. With numerous alternatives offered, it's critical to know where to purchase quality artificial turf in San Diego. This overview will offer you with the essential details to help you make a knowledgeable choice.

The very first step in purchasing quality artificial turf is locating dependable vendors. In San Diego, there are numerous premier providers known for their wide array of products and superb client service. These consist of Artificial Yard Liquidators, Turf Factory Direct, and Purchase Environment-friendly Artificial Grass. These providers offer top notch artificial turf that simulates the look of natural yard, making it an ideal option for homes, businesses, and sports centers.

Artificial Lawn Liquidators in San Diego is a top choice for lots of because of its wide range of affordable alternatives. They use both residential and industrial grade synthetic grass items that are eco-friendly and safe for kids and pets.

Lawn Factory Direct, on the various other hand, is understood for its top quality and price. They source their artificial turf straight from the supplier, making certain that consumers obtain the best quality item at the most affordable possible cost. They also provide a wide range of styles and colors, permitting clients to customize their synthetic grass to fit their specific demands and choices.

Acquisition Eco-friendly Artificial Lawn in San Diego is an additional wonderful alternative. They offer environment-friendly and pet-friendly artificial yard options that are developed to hold up against the extreme San Diego climate. Their items are additionally designed to be reduced upkeep, making them a superb choice for active home owners and local business owner.

When choosing synthetic grass, it's vital to consider elements such as durability, maintenance, aesthetic appeals, and expense. Quality synthetic grass needs to be long-lasting and adequate to stand up to hefty foot traffic and harsh climate conditions. It needs to likewise be reduced upkeep, requiring minimal watering and no mowing. In terms of aesthetic appeals, choose artificial turf that carefully looks like all-natural lawn in color and structure. Last but not least, take into consideration the cost. While top quality synthetic grass may be a lot more expensive in advance, it can save you cash over time due to its longevity and low maintenance needs.

To conclude, if you're wondering where to get high quality artificial turf in San Diego, consider vendors like Artificial Yard Liquidators, Turf Factory Direct, and Purchase Eco-friendly Artificial Lawn. These suppliers supply top-notch products at affordable prices, making them an excellent option for homeowners and business owners alike. By taking into consideration elements such as toughness, maintenance, aesthetics, and cost, you can pick the most effective synthetic grass for your needs.

Upkeep Tips for Your Chosen Artificial Turf

Synthetic grass has actually come to be a popular selection for many property owners in San Diego, and for an excellent factor. Its long-lasting, it requires much less maintenance than natural turf, and it stays environment-friendly throughout the year. However, also the very best synthetic grass needs some upkeep to maintain it in leading condition. Below are some ideas to aid you keep your chosen artificial turf looking its ideal.

1. **On A Regular Basis Brush and Rinse:** Utilize a rigid brush to maintain the blades of your artificial turf standing up and looking all-natural. Remember to brush in the opposite direction of the blades. Wash your grass regularly to wash away dust, dirt, and pollen. This will certainly not just maintain it tidy but additionally help to stop any kind of build-up that could harm the fibers.

2. **Take Care Of Spills Quickly:** If you spill anything on your grass, its essential to clean it up immediately. Most spills can be rinsed away with water. If you have a stubborn tarnish, you can use a light cleaning agent combined with warm water. Do not make use of rough chemicals as they can damage the fibers of the grass.

3. **Get Rid Of Debris:** Get rid of fallen leaves, twigs, and various other debris from your grass on a regular basis. This will certainly aid avoid the growth of mold and mildew and mildew. You can make use of a leaf blower or a plastic rake to do this. Do not utilize a steel rake as it can harm the turf.

4. **Shield from Heat:** While artificial turf is designed to endure the components, it can be harmed by severe heat. If you have exterior furniture or various other products on your grass, relocate them around occasionally to avoid warm accumulation. If youre preparing a barbecue or fire pit, ensure its far from your lawn to stay clear of any kind of potential damage.

5. **Routine Inspections:** Constantly inspect your lawn for any kind of indications of damages. If you discover any type of loosened seams, level spots, or other concerns, get them repaired asap. This will stop small problems from ending up being large ones.

6. **Specialist Maintenance:** While regular homeowner upkeep is vital, it's also a great concept to have your lawn professionally maintained a minimum of yearly. A specialist can deep clean your turf and resolve any potential issues you may not have actually observed.

Finally, picking the best artificial turf in San Diego includes not just choosing the appropriate item however also understanding how to keep it effectively. With these ideas, you can maintain your synthetic grass looking fresh, lavish, and green for many years ahead.

About hybrid grass

This article is about grass reinforced with other material. For grass hybrids, see [Grass \(disambiguation\)](#).

Hybrid grass or **reinforced natural grass** is a product created by combining natural [lawn grass](#) with reinforcing [synthetic fibres](#). It is used for stadiums^[1] and training pitches used for [association football](#),^[2] [rugby](#),^[3] [gridiron football](#)^[4] and [cricket](#).^[5] Reinforced natural grass can also be used for events and concerts. The synthetic fibres incorporated into the rootzone make the grass stronger and more resistant to damage.^[6]

A first generation of hybrid grass appeared in the 1990s. Grass roots were allowed to intertwine with a mix of soil and synthetic fibres as they grew.^[6] Three main methods exist to insert synthetic fibres in the root zone. The first is to inject fibres in the sand with a [tufting](#) machine.^{[7][8]}

The second method is to mix fibres, [cork](#) and [sand](#) in an automated plant and to install it afterwards on the pitch. The system was created by a laboratory at the [Arts et Métiers ParisTech](#).^{[9][10][11]}

The third method is to put a [carpet](#) or mat with woven or tufted fibres on the surface, then to brush in sand or sand mixes to keep the fibres in an upright position and finally to seed grass mixtures on top. The natural grass roots through the mat and stabilizes the system. These systems are called carpet-based hybrid grass solutions.^[12]

References

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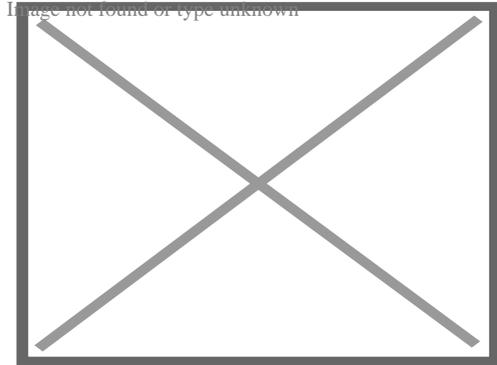
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About Artificial turf

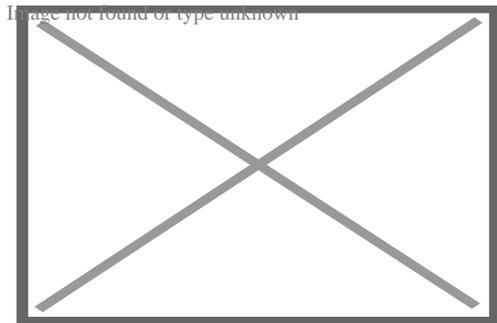
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Artificial turf with rubber crumb infill



Side view of artificial turf

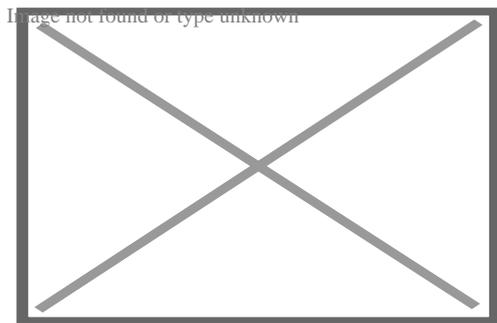
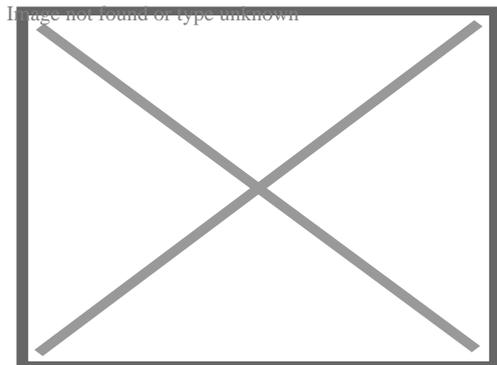


Diagram of the structure of modern artificial turf



Artificial turf square mats

Artificial turf is a surface of **synthetic fibers** made to look like natural **grass**, used in sports arenas, residential lawns and commercial applications that traditionally use grass. It is much more durable than grass and easily maintained without **irrigation** or trimming, although periodic cleaning is required. Stadiums that are substantially covered and/or at high latitudes often use artificial turf, as they typically lack enough sunlight for **photosynthesis** and substitutes for solar radiation are prohibitively expensive and energy-intensive. Disadvantages include increased risk of injury especially when used in athletic competition, as well as health and environmental concerns about the petroleum and toxic chemicals used in its manufacture.

Artificial turf first gained substantial attention in 1966, when ChemGrass was installed in the year-old **Astrodome**, developed by **Monsanto** and rebranded as **AstroTurf**, now a **generic trademark** (registered to a new owner) for any artificial turf.

The first-generation system of shortpile fibers without infill of the 1960s has largely been replaced by two more. The second features longer fibers and sand infill and the third adds recycled **crumb rubber** to the sand. Compared to earlier systems, modern artificial turf more closely resembles grass in appearance and is also considered safer for athletic competition. However, it is still not widely considered to be equal to grass. Sports clubs, leagues, unions and individual athletes have frequently spoken out and campaigned against it, while local governments have enacted and enforced laws restricting and/or banning its use.

History

[[edit](#)]

David Chaney, who moved to **Raleigh, North Carolina**, in 1960 and later served as Dean of the **North Carolina State University** College of Textiles, headed the team of **Research Triangle Park** researchers who created the first notable artificial turf. That accomplishment led *Sports Illustrated* to declare Chaney as the man "responsible for indoor major league baseball and millions of welcome mats."

Artificial turf was first installed in 1964 on a recreation area at the **Moses Brown School** in **Providence, Rhode Island**.^[1] The material came to public prominence in 1966, when

AstroTurf was installed in the **Astrodome** in **Houston, Texas**.^[1] The state-of-the-art indoor stadium had attempted to use natural grass during its initial season in **1965**, but this failed miserably and the field conditions were grossly inadequate during the second half of the season, with the dead grass painted green. Due to a limited supply of the new artificial grass, only the infield was installed before the **Houston Astros'** home opener in April **1966**; the outfield was installed in early summer during an extended Astros road trip and first used after the **All-Star** Break in July.

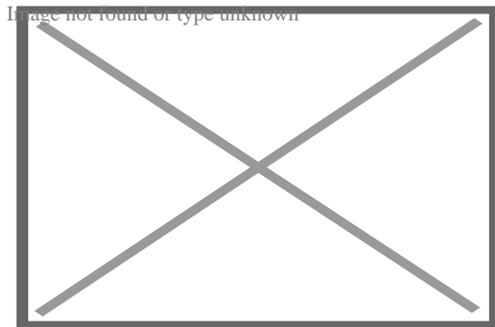
The use of AstroTurf and similar surfaces became widespread in the U.S. and Canada in the early 1970s, installed in both indoor and outdoor stadiums used for **baseball** and **football**. More than 11,000 artificial turf playing fields have been installed nationally.^[2] More than 1,200 were installed in the U.S. in 2013 alone, according to the industry group the Synthetic Turf Council.^[2]

Sports applications

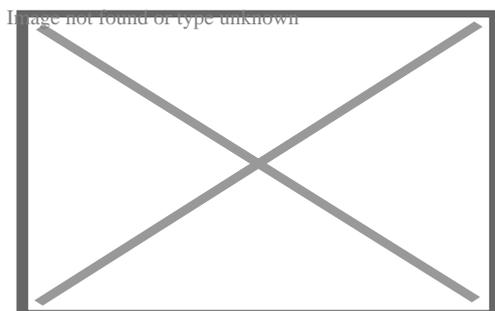
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Baseball

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Tropicana Field with its artificial turf field.

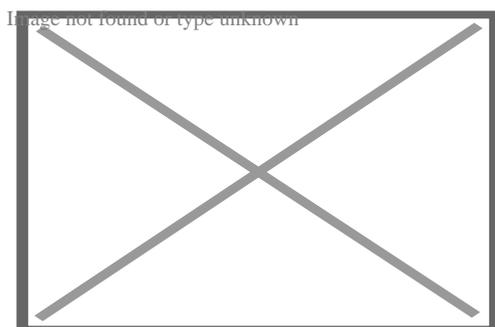


An artificial-turf field at a high school in Oregon.

Artificial turf was first used in [Major League Baseball](#) in the Houston [Astrodome](#) in 1966, replacing the grass field used when the stadium opened a year earlier. Even though the grass was specifically bred for indoor use, the dome's semi-transparent [Lucite](#) ceiling panels, which had been painted white to cut down on glare that bothered the players, did not pass enough sunlight to support the grass. For most of the [1965 season](#), the [Astros](#) played on green-painted dirt and dead grass.

The solution was to install a new type of artificial grass on the field, ChemGrass, which became known as AstroTurf. Given its early use, the term *astroturf* has since been [genericized](#) as a term for any artificial turf.[\[3\]](#) Because the supply of AstroTurf was still low, only a limited amount was available for the first home game. There was not enough for the entire outfield, but there was enough to cover the traditional grass portion of the infield. The outfield remained painted dirt until after the [All-Star Break](#). The team was sent on an extended road trip before the break, and on July 19, 1966, the installation of the outfield portion of AstroTurf was completed.

The [Chicago White Sox](#) became the first team to install artificial turf in an outdoor stadium, as they used it only in the infield and adjacent foul territory at [Comiskey Park](#) from 1969 through 1975.[\[4\]](#) Artificial turf was later installed in other new [multi-purpose stadiums](#) such as Pittsburgh's [Three Rivers Stadium](#), Philadelphia's [Veterans Stadium](#), and Cincinnati's [Riverfront Stadium](#). Early AstroTurf baseball fields used the traditional all-dirt path, but starting in 1970 with Cincinnati's Riverfront Stadium,[\[5\]](#) teams began using the "base cutout" layout on the diamond, with the only dirt being on the pitcher's mound, batter's circle, and in a five-sided diamond-shaped "sliding box" around each base. With this layout, a painted arc would indicate where the edge of the outfield grass would normally be, to assist fielders in positioning themselves properly. The last stadium in MLB to use this configuration was [Rogers Centre](#) in Toronto, when they switched to an all-dirt infield (but keeping the artificial turf) for the 2016 season.[\[6\]](#)[\[7\]](#)



Artificial turf being installed on a baseball field in Queens, New York City.

The biggest difference in play on artificial turf was that the ball bounced higher than on real grass and also traveled faster, causing infielders to play farther back than they would normally so that they would have sufficient time to react. The ball also had a truer bounce than on grass so that on long throws fielders could deliberately bounce the ball in front of the player they were throwing to, with the certainty that it would travel in a straight line and not be deflected to the right or left. The biggest impact on the game of "turf", as it came to be called, was on the bodies of the players. The artificial surface, which was generally placed over a concrete base, had much less give to it than a traditional dirt and grass field did, which caused more wear-and-tear on knees, ankles, feet, and the lower back, possibly even shortening the careers of those players who played a significant portion of their games on artificial surfaces. Players also complained that the turf was much hotter than grass, sometimes causing the metal spikes to burn their feet or plastic ones to melt. These factors eventually provoked a number of stadiums, such as the [Kansas City Royals' Kauffman Stadium](#), to switch from artificial turf back to natural grass.

In 2000, St. Petersburg's [Tropicana Field](#) became the first MLB field to use a third-generation artificial surface, [FieldTurf](#). All other remaining artificial turf stadiums were either converted to third-generation surfaces or were replaced entirely by new natural grass stadiums. In a span of 13 years, between 1992 and 2005, the [National League](#) went from having half of its teams using artificial turf to all of them playing on natural grass. With the replacement of Minneapolis's [Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome](#) by [Target Field](#) in 2010, only two MLB stadiums used artificial turf from 2010 through 2018: Tropicana Field and Toronto's Rogers Centre. This number grew to three when the Arizona Diamondbacks switched [Chase Field](#) to artificial turf for the 2019 season; the stadium had grass from its opening in 1998 until 2018, but the difficulty of maintaining the grass in the stadium, which has a retractable roof and is located in a desert city, was cited as the reason for the switch.^[8] In 2020, Miami's [Marlins Park](#) (now [loanDepot Park](#)) also switched to artificial turf for similar reasons, while the Texas Rangers' new [Globe Life Field](#) was opened with an artificial surface, as it is also a retractable roof ballpark in a hot weather city; this puts the number of teams using synthetic turf in MLB at five as of 2023.

American football

[edit]

The first professional American football team to play on artificial turf was the [Houston Oilers](#), then part of the [American Football League](#), who moved into the [Astrodome](#) in 1968, which had installed AstroTurf two years prior. In 1969, the [University of Pennsylvania's Franklin Field](#) in Philadelphia, at the time also home field of the [Philadelphia Eagles](#), switched from grass to AstroTurf, making it the first [National Football League](#) stadium to use artificial turf.

In 2002, [CenturyLink Field](#), originally planned to have a natural grass field, was instead surfaced with FieldTurf upon positive reaction from the [Seattle Seahawks](#) when they played on the surface at their temporary home of [Husky Stadium](#) during the 2000 and 2001 seasons. This would be the first of a leaguewide trend taking place over the next several seasons that would not only result in teams already using artificial surfaces for their fields switching to the new FieldTurf or other similar surfaces but would also see several teams playing on grass adopt a new surface. (The [Indianapolis Colts' RCA Dome](#) and the [St. Louis Rams' Edward Jones Dome](#) were the last two stadiums in the NFL to replace their first-generation AstroTurf surfaces for next-generation ones after the [2004 season](#)). For example, after a three-year experiment with a natural surface, [Giants Stadium](#) went to FieldTurf for 2003, while [M&T Bank Stadium](#) added its own artificial surface the same year (it has since been removed and replaced with a natural surface, which the stadium had before installing the turf). Later examples include [Paul Brown Stadium](#) (now Paycor Stadium), which went from grass to turf in 2004; [Gillette Stadium](#), which made the switch in 2006;^[9] and [NRG Stadium](#), which did so in 2015. As of 2021, 14 NFL fields out of 30 are artificial. NFL players overwhelmingly prefer natural grass over synthetic surfaces, according to a league survey conducted in 2010. When asked, "Which surface do you think is more likely to shorten your career?", 90% responded artificial turf.^[10] When players were asked "Is the Turf versus Grass debate overblown or a real concern"^[11] in an anonymous player survey, 83% believe it is a real concern while 12.3% believe it is overblown.

Following receiver [Odell Beckham Jr.](#)'s injury during [Super Bowl LVI](#), other NFL players started calling for turf to be banned since the site of the game, [SoFi Stadium](#), was a turf field.^[12]

[Arena football](#) is played indoors on the older short-pile artificial turf.

Canadian football

[\[edit\]](#)

The first professional [Canadian football](#) stadium to use artificial turf was [Empire Stadium](#) in [Vancouver, British Columbia](#), then home of the [Canadian Football League](#)'s [BC Lions](#), which installed 3M TartanTurf in 1970. Today, eight of the nine stadiums in the CFL currently use artificial turf, largely because of the harsh weather conditions in the latter-half of the season. The only one that does not is [BMO Field](#) in Toronto, which initially had an artificial pitch and has been shared by the CFL's [Toronto Argonauts](#) since 2016 (part of the endzones at that stadium are covered with artificial turf).^[13] The first stadium to use the next-generation surface was Ottawa's Frank Clair Stadium (now [TD Place Stadium](#)), which the [Ottawa Renegades](#) used when they began play in 2002. The [Saskatchewan Roughriders](#)' [Taylor Field](#) was the only major professional sports venue in North America to use a second-generation artificial playing surface, [Omniturf](#), which was used from 1988 to 2000, followed by AstroTurf from 2000 to 2007 and FieldTurf from 2007 to its 2016 closure.^[14]

Cricket

[\[edit\]](#)

Some [cricket pitches](#) are made of synthetic grass^[15] or of a hybrid of mostly natural and some artificial grass, with these "hybrid pitches" having been implemented across several parts of the [United Kingdom](#)^[16] and Australia.^[17] The first synthetic turf cricket field in the USA was opened in [Fremont, California](#) in 2016.^[18]

Field hockey

[[edit](#)]

Further information: [Field hockey history](#) § [The synthetic revolution](#)

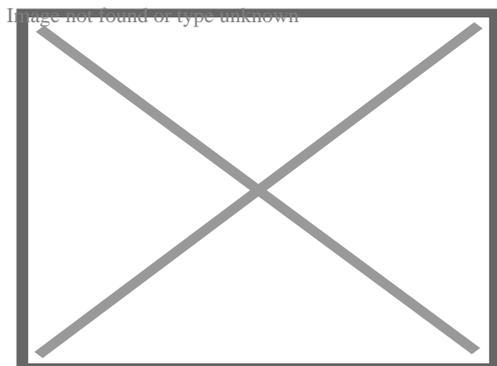
The introduction of synthetic surfaces has significantly changed the sport of [field hockey](#). Since being introduced in the 1970s, competitions in western countries are now mostly played on artificial surfaces. This has increased the speed of the game considerably and changed the shape of hockey sticks to allow for different techniques, such as reverse stick trapping and hitting.

Field hockey artificial turf differs from artificial turf for other sports, in that it does not try to reproduce a grass feel, being made of shorter fibers. This allows the improvement in speed brought by earlier artificial turfs to be retained. This development is problematic for areas which cannot afford to build an extra artificial field for hockey alone. The [International Hockey Federation](#) and manufacturers are driving research in order to produce new fields that will be suitable for a variety of sports.

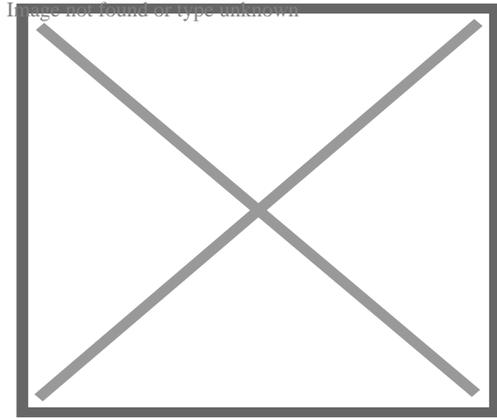
The use of artificial turf in conjunction with changes in the game's rules (e.g., the removal of offside, introduction of rolling substitutes and the self-pass, and to the interpretation of obstruction) have contributed significantly to change the nature of the game, greatly increasing the speed and intensity of play as well as placing far greater demands on the conditioning of the players.

Association football

[[edit](#)]



Aspmyra, Norway: home of the football club FK Bodø/Glimt



A slide tackle driving up crumbed rubber in the playing surface

The use of artificial turf, and whether they are not allowed or not, varies between different tournaments and time periods. Though grass is preferred in general in association football, artificial turf is found in areas where it is seen as impractical to maintain natural grass season-long, with causes including very cold climates (For instance [Norway's Eliteserien](#)) or multi-purpose stadiums ([Seattle's Lumen Field](#)).

Use permitted

[[edit](#)]

- [UEFA Champions League](#) (2005–)
- [UEFA Europa League](#) (2005–)
- [UEFA Conference League](#)
- [FIFA national team matches](#) (200?–)
- [UEFA national team matches](#) (2005–)
- [FA Cup](#)
- [Swiss Super League](#)
- [Allsvenskan](#)
- [Danish Superliga](#)
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- [Meistriliiga](#)
- [Cymru Premier](#)
- [CONMEBOL tournaments](#)^[19]

- [Campeonato Brasileiro Série A](#) (2016–)
- [Bolivian Primera División](#)^[19]
- [Major League Soccer](#)

Use prohibited

[\[edit\]](#)

- [Football League First Division / Premier League](#) (1991–)
- [Football League](#) tiers 2–4 (1995–)
- [Indian Super League](#) (2015–)
- [Eredivisie](#) (2025–)
- [Scottish Premiership](#) (2026–)^[20]

History in United Kingdom

[\[edit\]](#)

Some [association football](#) clubs in Europe installed synthetic surfaces in the 1980s, which were called "plastic pitches" (often derisively) in countries such as England. There, four professional club venues had adopted them; [Queens Park Rangers's Loftus Road](#) (1981–1988), [Luton Town's Kenilworth Road](#) (1985–1991), [Oldham Athletic's Boundary Park](#) (1986–1991) and [Preston North End's Deepdale](#) (1986–1994). QPR had been the first team to install an artificial pitch at their stadium in 1981, but were the first to remove it when they did so in 1988.

Artificial pitches were banned from top-flight (then First Division) football in 1991, forcing Oldham Athletic to remove their artificial pitch after their promotion to the First Division in 1991, while then top-flight Luton Town also removed their artificial pitch at the same time. The last [Football League](#) team to have an artificial pitch in England was Preston North End, who removed their pitch in 1994 after eight years in use. Artificial pitches were banned from the top four divisions from 1995.

Artificial turf gained a bad reputation^{[[neutrality is disputed](#)]} globally, with fans and especially with players. The first-generation artificial turf surfaces were carpet-like in their look and feel, and thus, a far harder surface than grass and soon became known^{[[by whom](#)]}

as an unforgiving playing surface that was prone to cause more [injuries](#), and in particular, more serious joint injuries, than would comparatively be suffered on a grass surface. This turf was also regarded as aesthetically unappealing to many fans [[weasel words](#)].

In 1981, London football club [Queens Park Rangers](#) dug up its grass pitch and installed an artificial one. Others followed, and by the mid-1980s there were four artificial surfaces in operation in the English league. They soon became a national joke: the ball pinged round like it was made of rubber, the players kept losing their footing, and anyone who fell over risked carpet burns. Unsurprisingly, fans complained that the football was awful to watch and, one by one, the clubs returned to natural grass.[\[21\]](#)

In November 2011, it was reported that a number of English football clubs were interested in using artificial pitches again on economic grounds.[\[22\]](#) As of January 2020, artificial pitches are not permitted in the [Premier League](#) or [Football League](#) but are permitted in the [National League](#) and lower divisions. [Bromley](#) are an example of an English football club who currently use a third-generation artificial pitch.[\[23\]](#) In 2018, Sutton United were close to achieving promotion to the Football League and the debate in England about artificial pitches resurfaced again. It was reported that, if Sutton won promotion, they would subsequently be demoted two leagues if they refused to replace their pitch with natural grass.[\[24\]](#) After [Harrogate Town](#)'s promotion to the Football League in 2020, the club was obliged to install a natural grass pitch at [Wetherby Road](#);[\[25\]](#) and after winning promotion in 2021 Sutton Utd were also obliged to tear up their artificial pitch and replace it with grass, at a cost of more than £500,000.[\[26\]](#) Artificial pitches are permitted in all rounds of the [FA Cup](#) competition.

History elsewhere

[\[edit\]](#)

In the 1990s, many North American soccer clubs also removed their artificial surfaces and re-installed grass, while others moved to new stadiums with state-of-the-art grass surfaces that were designed to withstand cold temperatures where the climate demanded it. The use of artificial turf was later banned by [FIFA](#), [UEFA](#) and by many domestic football associations, but FIFA and UEFA allowed it again from the mid-2000's

(UEFA from the 2005–06 season onwards), provided that the turfs are FIFA Recommended. UEFA has now been heavily involved in programs to test artificial turf, with tests made in several grounds meeting with FIFA approval. A team of UEFA, FIFA and German company Polytan conducted tests in the Stadion Salzburg Wals-Siezenheim in Salzburg, Austria which had matches played on it in UEFA Euro 2008. It is the second FIFA 2 Star approved artificial turf in a European domestic top flight, after Dutch club [Heracles Almelo](#) received the FIFA certificate in August 2005.[\[27\]](#) The tests were approved.[\[28\]](#)

FIFA originally launched its FIFA Quality Concept in February 2001.

A full international fixture for the [2008 European Championships](#) was played on October 17, 2007, between [England](#) and [Russia](#) on an artificial surface, which was installed to counteract adverse weather conditions, at the [Luzhniki Stadium](#) in Moscow.[\[29\]](#)[\[30\]](#) It was one of the first full international games to be played on such a surface approved by FIFA and UEFA. The latter ordered the [2008 European Champions League](#) final hosted in the same stadium in May 2008 to place on grass, so a temporary natural grass field was installed just for the final.

In 2007, UEFA stressed that artificial turf should only be considered an option where climatic conditions necessitate.[\[31\]](#) One Desso "[hybrid grass](#)" product incorporates both natural grass and artificial elements.[\[32\]](#)

In June 2009, following a match played at [Estadio Ricardo Saprissa](#) in Costa Rica, [American national team](#) manager [Bob Bradley](#) called on FIFA to "have some courage" and ban artificial surfaces.[\[33\]](#)

FIFA designated a star system for artificial turf fields that have undergone a series of tests that examine quality and performance based on a two star system.[\[34\]](#) Recommended two-star fields may be used for FIFA Final Round Competitions as well as for [UEFA Europa League](#) and [Champions League](#) matches.[\[35\]](#) There are currently 130 FIFA Recommended 2-Star installations in the world.[\[36\]](#)

In 2009, FIFA launched the Preferred Producer Initiative to improve the quality of artificial football turf at each stage of the life cycle (manufacturing, installation and maintenance).[\[37\]](#) Currently, there are five manufacturers that were selected by FIFA: Act Global, Limonta, Desso, GreenFields, and Edel Grass. These firms have made quality

guarantees directly to FIFA and have agreed to increased research and development.

In 2010, **Estadio Omnilife** with an artificial turf opened in **Guadalajara** to be the new home of **Chivas**, one of the most popular teams in Mexico. The owner of Chivas, **Jorge Vergara**, defended the reasoning behind using artificial turf because the stadium was designed to be "environment friendly and as such, having grass would result [in] using too much water."^[38] Some players criticized the field, saying its harder surface caused many injuries. When **Johan Cruyff** became the adviser of the team, he recommended the switch to natural grass, which the team did in 2012.^[39]

The **2015 FIFA Women's World Cup** took place entirely on artificial surfaces, as the event was played in Canada, where almost all of the country's stadiums use artificial turf due to climate issues. This plan garnered criticism from players and fans, some believing the artificial surfaces make players more susceptible to injuries. Over fifty of the female athletes protested against the use of artificial turf on the basis of **gender discrimination**.^[40]^[41] **Australia** winger **Caitlin Foord** said that after playing 90 minutes there was no difference to her post-match recovery – a view shared by the rest of the squad. The squad spent much time preparing on the surface and had no problems with its use in Winnipeg. "We've been training on [artificial] turf pretty much all year so I think we're kind of used to it in that way ... I think grass or turf you can still pull up sore after a game so it's definitely about getting the recovery in and getting it right", Foord said.^[42] A lawsuit was filed on October 1, 2014, in an Ontario tribunal court by a group of women's international soccer players against FIFA and the Canadian Soccer Association and specifically points out that in 1994 FIFA spent \$2 million to plant natural grass over artificial turf in **New Jersey** and **Detroit**.^[43] Various celebrities showed their support for the women soccer players in defense of their lawsuit, including actor **Tom Hanks**, NBA player **Kobe Bryant** and **U.S. men's soccer team** keeper **Tim Howard**. Even with the possibility of boycotts, **FIFA's** head of women's competitions, Tatjana Haenni, made it clear that "we play on artificial turf and there's no Plan B."^[44]^[45]

The first stadium to use artificial turf in Brazil was **Atlético Paranaense's Arena da Baixada** in 2016. In 2020, the administration of **Allianz Parque**, home of **Sociedade Esportiva Palmeiras**, started the implementation of the second artificial pitch in the country.^[46]

In 2024, the **Eredivisie** banned artificial turfs, meaning **hybrid grass** and **natural grass** became mandatory, starting from the 2025–26 season.^[47]

In UEFA tournaments, teams who are used to playing on artificial turf are seen as having a large home advantage against teams who don't, as was the case for [Bodø/Glimt's](#) semi-final campaign in the [2025–26 UEFA Europa League](#).^[48]

Rugby union

[\[edit\]](#)

Rugby union also uses artificial surfaces at a professional level. Infill fields are used by English [Premiership Rugby](#) teams [Gloucester](#), [Newcastle Falcons](#), [Saracens F.C.](#) and the now defunct [Worcester Warriors](#), as well as [United Rugby Championship](#) teams [Cardiff](#), [Edinburgh](#) and [Glasgow Warriors](#). Some fields, including [Twickenham Stadium](#), have incorporated a hybrid field, with grass and synthetic fibers used on the surface. This allows for the field to be much more hard wearing, making it less susceptible to weather conditions and frequent use.

Tennis

[\[edit\]](#)

Main article: [Tennis court](#)

Carpet has been used as a surface for indoor tennis courts for decades, though the first carpets used were more similar to home carpets than a synthetic grass. After the introduction of [AstroTurf](#), it came to be used for tennis courts, both indoor and outdoor, though only a small minority of courts use the surface.^{[49][50]} Both infill and non-infill versions are used, and are typically considered medium-fast to fast surfaces under the International Tennis Federation's classification scheme.^[49] A distinct form found in tennis is an "artificial clay" surface,^[49] which seeks to simulate a [clay court](#) by using a very short pile carpet with an infill of the same loose aggregate used for clay courts that rises above the carpet fibers.^[49]

[Tennis courts](#) such as [Wimbledon](#) are considering using an artificial hybrid grass to replace their natural lawn courts. Such systems incorporate synthetic fibers into natural

grass to create a more durable surface on which to play.^[51] Such hybrid surfaces are currently used for some association football stadiums, including **Wembley Stadium**.

Golf

[[edit](#)]



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Synthetic turf can also be used in the golf industry, such as on driving ranges, putting greens and even in some circumstances tee boxes. For low budget courses, particularly those catering to casual golfers, synthetic putting greens offer the advantage of being a relatively cheap alternative to installing and maintaining grass greens, but are much more similar to real grass in appearance and feel compared to sand greens which are the traditional alternative surface. Because of the vast areas of golf courses and the damage from clubs during shots, it is not feasible to surface fairways with artificial turf.

Motor racing

[[edit](#)]

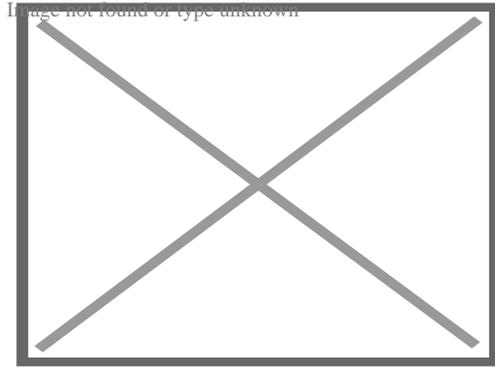
Artificial grass is used to line the perimeter of some sections of some motor circuits, and offers less grip than some other surfaces.^[52] It can pose an obstacle to drivers if it gets caught on their car.^[53]

Other applications

[[edit](#)]

Landscaping

[edit]



A home's yard with artificial grass.

Since the early 1990s, the use of synthetic grass in the more arid western states of the United States has moved beyond athletic fields to residential and commercial landscaping.[54] New water saving programs, as of 2019, which grant rebates for turf removal, do not accept artificial turf as replacement and require a minimum of plants.[55][56]

The use of artificial grass for convenience sometimes faces opposition: Legislation frequently seeks to preserve natural gardens and fully water permeable surfaces, therefore restricting the use of hardscape and plantless areas, including artificial turf. In several locations in different countries, homeowners have been fined, ordered to remove artificial turf and/or had to defend themselves in courts. Many of these restrictions can be found in local bylaws and ordinances. These not always applied in a consistent manner,[57][58][59] especially in municipalities that utilize a complaint-based model for enforcing local laws.

Sunlight reflections from nearby windows can cause artificial turf to melt. This can be avoided by adding perforated vinyl privacy window film adhesive to the outside of the window causing the reflection.

Airports

[edit]

Artificial turf has been used at airports.[60] Here it provides several advantages over natural turf – it does not support wildlife, it has high visual contrast with runways in all

seasons, it reduces **foreign object damage** (FOD) since the surface has no rocks or clumps, and it drains well.[61]

Some artificial turf systems allow for the integration of **fiber-optic** fibers into the turf. This would allow for runway lighting to be embedded in artificial landing surfaces for aircraft (or lighting or advertisements to be directly embedded in a playing surface).[62]

Tanks for octopuses

[edit]

Artificial turf is commonly used for tanks containing octopuses, in particular the **Giant Pacific octopus** since it is a reliable way to prevent the octopuses from escaping their tank, as they prevent the suction cups on the tentacles from getting a tight seal.[63]

Environmental and safety concerns

[edit]

Environmental footprint

[edit]

The first major academic review of the environmental and health risks and benefits of artificial turf was published in 2014:[64] it was followed by extensive research on possible risks to human health, but holistic analyses of the environmental footprint of artificial turf compared with natural turf only began to emerge in the 2020s,[65][66] and frameworks to support informed policymaking were still lacking.[67][68] Evaluating the relative environmental footprints of natural and artificial turf is complex, with outcomes depending on a wide range of factors, including (to give the example of a sports field):[64]

- what ecosystem services are lost by converting a site to a sports pitch
- how resource-intensive is the landscaping work and transport of materials to create a pitch

- whether input materials are recycled and whether these are recycled again at the end of the pitch's life
- how resource-intensive and damaging maintenance is (whether through water, fertiliser, weed-killer, reapplication of rubber crumb, snow-clearing, etc.)
- how intensively the facility is used, for how long, and whether surface type can reduce the overall number of pitches required

Artificial turf has been shown to contribute to global warming by absorbing significantly more radiation than living turf and, to a lesser extent, by displacing living plants that could sequester carbon dioxide through photosynthesis;[69] a study at New Mexico State University found that in that environment, water-cooling of artificial turf can demand as much water as natural turf.[70] However, a 2022 study that used real-world data to model a ten-year-life-cycle environmental footprint for a new natural-turf soccer field compared with an artificial-turf field found that the natural-turf field contributed twice as much to global warming as the artificial one (largely due to a more resource-intensive construction phase), while finding that the artificial turf would likely cause more pollution of other kinds. It promoted improvements to usual practice such as the substitution of **cork** for rubber in artificial pitches and more drought-resistant grasses and electric mowing in natural ones.[65] In 2021, a **Zurich University of Applied Sciences** study for the city of **Zurich**, using local data on extant pitches, found that, per hour of use, natural turf had the lowest environmental footprint, followed by artificial turf with no infill, and then artificial turf using an infill (e.g. granulated rubber). However, because it could tolerate more hours of use, unfilled artificial turf often had the lowest environmental footprint in practice, by reducing the total number of pitches required. The study recommended optimising the use of existing pitches before building new ones, and choosing the best surface for the likely intensity of use.[66] Another suggestion is the introduction of **green roofs** to **offset** the conversion of grassland to artificial turf.[71]

Maintenance

[edit]

Contrary to popular belief, artificial turf is not maintenance free. It requires regular maintenance, such as raking and patching, to keep it functional and safe.[72]

Pollution and associated health risks

[edit]

Further information: [Artificial turf–cancer hypothesis](#)

Some artificial turf uses infill such as silicon sand, but most uses granulated [rubber](#), referred to as "[crumb rubber](#)". Granulated rubber can be made from [recycled car tires](#) and may carry [heavy metals](#), [PFAS chemicals](#), and other chemicals of environmental concern. The [synthetic fibers](#) of artificial turf are also subject to degradation. Thus chemicals from artificial turfs [leach](#) into the environment, and artificial turf is a source of [microplastics pollution](#) and [rubber pollution](#) in [air](#), [fresh-water](#), [sea](#) and [soil](#) environments.[73][74][75][76][77][78][64]^{[[excessive citations](#)]} In Norway, Sweden, and at least some other places, the rubber granulate from artificial turf infill constitutes the second largest source of microplastics in the environment after the [tire](#) and [road wear](#) particles that make up a large portion of the fine [road debris](#). [79][80][81] As early as 2007, Environment and Human Health, Inc., a lobby-group, proposed a moratorium on the use of ground-up rubber tires in fields and playgrounds based on health concerns; [82] in September 2022, the [European Commission](#) made a draft proposal to restrict the use of microplastic granules as infill in sports fields.[83]

What is less clear is how likely this pollution is in practice to harm humans or other organisms and whether these environmental costs outweigh the benefits of artificial turf, with many scientific papers and government agencies (such as the [United States Environmental Protection Agency](#)) calling for more research.[2] A 2018 study published in *[Water, Air, & Soil Pollution](#)* analyzed the chemicals found in samples of tire crumbs, some used to install school athletic fields, and identified 92 chemicals only about half of which had ever been studied for their health effects and some of which are known to be carcinogenic or irritants. It stated "caution would argue against use of these materials where human exposure is likely, and this is especially true for playgrounds and athletic playing fields where young people may be affected".[84] Conversely, a 2017 study in *[Sports Medicine](#)* argued that "regular physical activity during adolescence and early

adulthood helps prevent cancer later in life. Restricting the use or availability of all-weather year-round synthetic fields and thereby potentially reducing exercise could, in the long run, actually increase cancer incidence, as well as cardiovascular disease and other chronic illnesses."[\[85\]](#)

The possibility that carcinogenic substances in artificial turf could increase risks of human cancer (the [artificial turf–cancer hypothesis](#)) gained a particularly high profile in the first decades of the twenty-first century and attracted extensive study, with scientific reports around 2020 finding cancer-risks in modern artificial turf negligible.[\[86\]](#) [\[87\]](#)[\[88\]](#)[\[89\]](#) But concerns have extended to other human-health risks, such as [endocrine disruption](#) that might affect early puberty, obesity, and children's attention spans.[\[90\]](#)[\[91\]](#) [\[92\]](#)[\[93\]](#) Potential harm to fish[\[75\]](#) and earthworm[\[94\]](#) populations has also been shown.

A study for the [New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection](#) analyzed lead and other metals in dust kicked into the air by physical activity on five artificial turf fields. The results suggest that even low levels of activity on the field can cause particulate matter containing these chemicals to get into the air where it can be inhaled and be harmful. The authors state that since no level of lead exposure is considered safe for children, "only a comprehensive mandated testing of fields can provide assurance that no health hazard on these fields exists from lead or other metals used in their construction and maintenance."[\[95\]](#)

Kinesiological health risks

[\[edit\]](#)

A number of health and safety concerns have been raised about artificial turf.[\[2\]](#) Friction between skin and older generations of artificial turf can cause abrasions and/or burns to a much greater extent than natural grass.[\[96\]](#) Artificial turf tends to retain heat from the sun and can be much hotter than natural grass with prolonged exposure to the sun.[\[97\]](#)

There is some evidence that periodic disinfection of artificial turf is required as pathogens are not broken down by natural processes in the same manner as natural grass. Despite this, a 2006 study suggests certain microbial life is less active in artificial turf.[\[96\]](#)

There is evidence showing higher rates of player injury on artificial turf. By November 1971, the injury toll on first-generation artificial turf had reached a threshold that resulted in [congressional](#) hearings by the [House](#) subcommittee on commerce and finance.^{[98][99][100]} In a study performed by the National Football League Injury and Safety Panel, published in the October 2012 issue of the *American Journal of Sports Medicine*, Elliott B. Hershman et al. reviewed injury data from NFL games played between 2000 and 2009, finding that "the injury rate of knee [sprains](#) as a whole was 22% higher on FieldTurf than on natural grass. While MCL sprains did not occur at a rate significantly higher than on grass, rates of ACL sprains were 67% higher on FieldTurf."^[101] [Metatarsophalangeal joint](#) sprain, known as "[turf toe](#)" when the big toe is involved, is named from the injury being associated with playing sports on rigid surfaces such as artificial turf and is a fairly common injury among professional American football players. Artificial turf is a harder surface than grass and does not have much "give" when forces are placed on it.^[102]

See also

[\[edit\]](#)

- [International Association for Sports Surface Sciences](#)
- [List of college football stadiums with non-traditional field colors](#)
- [Poly-Turf](#)
- [The Flying Grass Carpet](#)

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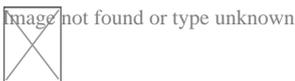
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