

# Natural Soil Improvement

Sandy loam soil is an ideal base for lawns and gardens. A once only addition of kaolin clay and silt can transform your sand, permanently cure water repellency and hold onto more water and nutrients in the soil.

## Soil improvement tips

- Add kaolin clay and silt, and plenty of rock minerals to your sand to convert it into a sandy loam. Soil Solver Clay Plus comes ready to use in one bag.
- Organic matter like compost and aged manure needs to be replaced as plants absorb the nutrients. The clay is a permanent addition and also helps the organic matter last for longer in the soil and leach fewer nutrients away.
- Spread compost and aged manure over your soil and then add a mulch to keep the soil cool and shaded.
- Use a straw based mulch like lupin for veggie patches which cool the soil and break down quickly to provide plenty of nutrients for tender exotics and fast growing vegetables. Wood chip mulches last longer but have very few nutrients and are better suited to native plants.
- If you have a clay soil, add plenty of organic matter such as Soil Solver Compost Plus, coir and manures. Adding about 1 kg per sqm of lime and Rock Minerals will slowly break down the clay and make it more friable.



## How To Install Your New Lawn

When planning to lay your new lawn, the soil preparation is the most important stage for your lawn's establishment and its long term health and water efficiency. Improving sandy ground by adding kaolin clay and silt is essential to permanently improve the water holding capacity and make it an easy care lawn. Add small amounts of mature compost to feed the soil micro organisms and worms.

### METHOD

**STEP 1.** Start with sand 7cm below any pavers, to allow room for the turf to grow upwards. Spread 10kg Soil Solver Clay Plus per sqm on the surface of the sandy ground. Mix in well using a rotary hoe or garden fork. Add plenty of water to rehydrate the clay and leave overnight if possible.

**STEP 2.** Add a fully mature compost, with a high humus and nitrogen content. Compost Plus or Dynamic Lifter provide food for the soil, and if you want a 'softer' surface for young families rough and tumbles add fine coir. Rake into the surface and level the ground.

**STEP 3.** Start laying the lawn. If it is a hot day, water as you go. Stagger the joins in the lawn (like brick work) and make sure the joints are tightly together.

**STEP 4.** After laying all turf, water in well and roll with a heavy roller to form a good contact between the turf and the soil. (or lay a plank on the surface and walk on it)

**STEP 5.** Top dress with more sandy loam or mature compost filling in any gaps between joins. Water well.

The first two weeks are critical to keep the new lawn well watered to help the roots to establish in the new soil. If the lawn is growing too vigorously, reduce the watering.

## Growing fruit and veg

Add kaolin clay, silt and minerals to your veggie beds to hold water and nutrients in the soil for longer. Vegetables grow more vigorously, with fewer pests and diseases. Soil needs trace elements just like we do, and tiny amounts of over 30 are vital for healthy plants and people. Balanced minerals are included in Soil Solver clay and compost products, good for you and for your garden.



Treating this lawn with Soil Solver clay and compost quickly transformed it.

