

Fertilizer Application Worksheet

In addition to having your soil tested for its nutrient needs, knowing your lawn's square footage is essential for proper fertilization. Without this information, you run the risk of over-applying and contributing to polluted runoff, or under-applying the nutrients your lawn needs to stay healthy. Multiply each area's (i.e. backyard, side yard, front yard, etc.) length x width to get its square footage, and add together the total from each area to get your yard's overall square footage:

Area 1: _____
Length: _____ x Width: _____ = Area 1 Square Footage: _____

Area 2: _____
Length: _____ x Width: _____ = Area 2 Square Footage: _____

Area 3: _____
Length: _____ x Width: _____ = Area 3 Square Footage: _____

Area 4: _____
Length: _____ x Width: _____ = Area 4 Square Footage: _____

Area 5: _____
Length: _____ x Width: _____ = Area 5 Square Footage: _____

Total Square Footage: _____

Calculating Your Fertilizer Application Rate per 1,000 Square Feet of Lawn

Your bag of fertilizer will provide a nutrient ratio noted as N-P-K: % N (nitrogen) - % P (phosphorus) - % K (potassium). To calculate the amount of fertilizer to apply per 1,000 square feet of lawn, divide 100 by the nutrient percentage.

For example: If the analysis is 10% nitrogen, divide 100 by 10 = 10. That means you would need to apply 10 lbs of fertilizer per 1,000 square feet to apply an actual rate of **one lb** of nitrogen per application.

In order to apply the correct amount of fertilizer per area, use the following calculation:

Area square footage total ÷ 1,000 x # lbs = Total lbs applied to that area. If your front yard is 500 square feet, you would divide it by 1,000 x 10 lbs recommended/1,000 square feet = 5 lbs fertilizer to be applied. You can apply this calculation to the phosphorus and potassium components as well to make sure the fertilizer you choose best fulfills your soil analysis recommendations.

Courtesy of Healthy Communities Project: www.healthycommunitiesproject.org