

How to measure a lawn

If you've got more than one or two square or oblong lawns I suggest that you take a pad and pencil and roughly draw your lawns shape and then fill in the measurements as you go.

If you have a long enough tape measure and a friend or can borrow a 'measuring wheel' then this is the easiest and most accurate way to measure your lawn. If you can measure in metres then life will be easier. If not, measure in feet or yards.



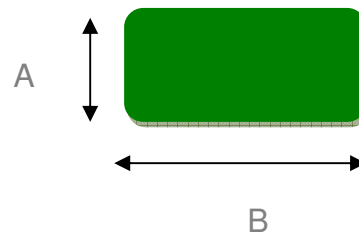
To keep what follows as simple as possible we will call your measurement in feet, yards or metres a UNIT. Once you've got all your measurements done, and, if you haven't measured in metres we can convert your feet or yards into metres quite easily.

CAUTION: Do not measure in feet AND yards. Use one or the other.

Calculating Simple Lawn Shapes

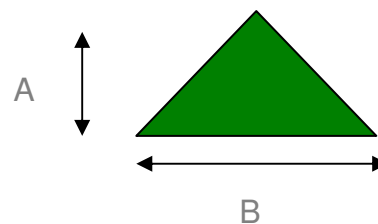
Square or rectangle

Area is $A \times B = \text{Area in SQUARE UNITS}$



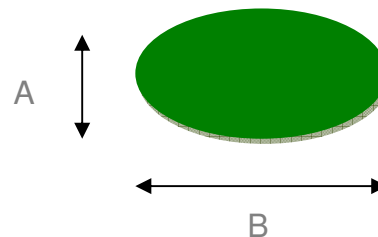
Triangle

Area is $A \times B \div 2 = \text{Area in SQUARE UNITS}$



Circle or Ellipse

Area is $A \times B \times 0.785 = \text{Area in SQUARE UNITS}$



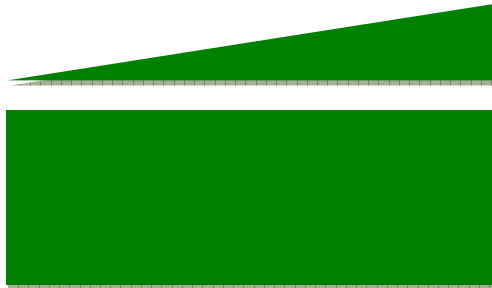
Calculating Complex Lawn Shapes

Many complicated shapes can be broken down into a number of simple shapes. Once you have decided what the shapes are you can use the above simple shapes and calculations to work out the areas.

This one.....



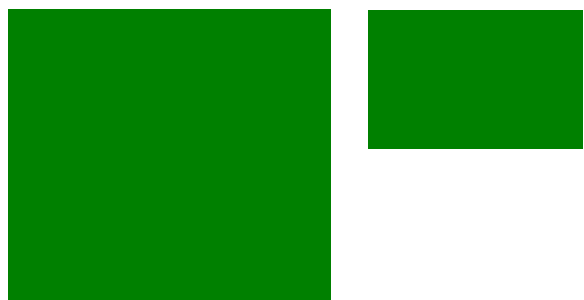
.....is a rectangle and a triangle



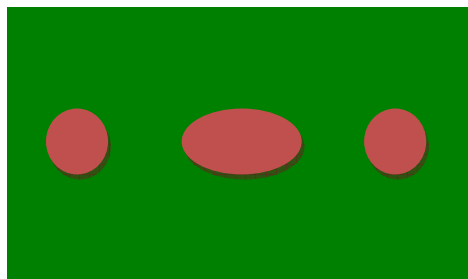
This one.....



.....is two rectangles



Some lawns have 'shrubby islands'



Just measure and work out the areas for all four shapes then take the areas of the three small islands away from the area of the rectangle

The following shapes can be measured by a bit of averaging.

When you have uneven sides then sometimes you need to take an average between them. You can average as many measurements as you like.

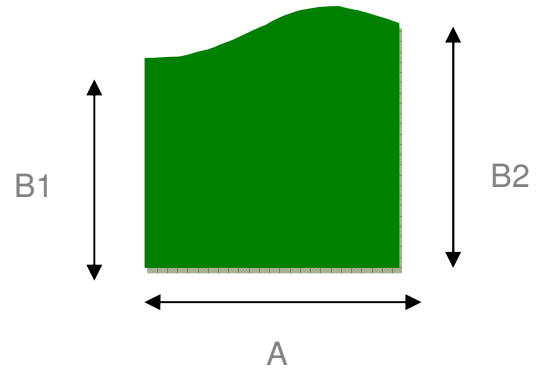
Example 1

Measure all sides: A, B1 & B2

To take the average
Add B1+ B2 and then $\div 2 = B$

Now you can do the calculation:

$$A \times B = \text{Area in SQUARE UNITS}$$



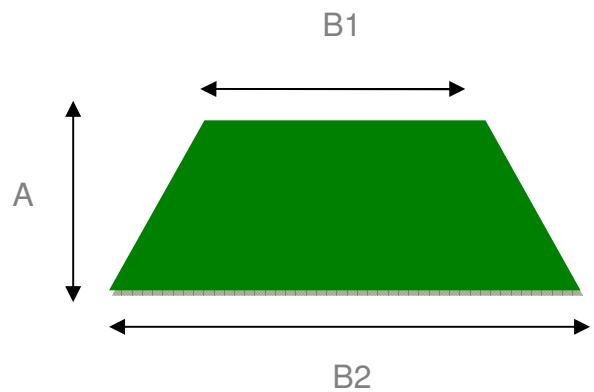
Example 2

Measure all sides: A, B1 & B2

To take the average
Add B1+ B2 and then $\div 2 = B$

Now you can do the calculation:

$$A \times B = \text{Area in SQUARE UNITS}$$



Example 3

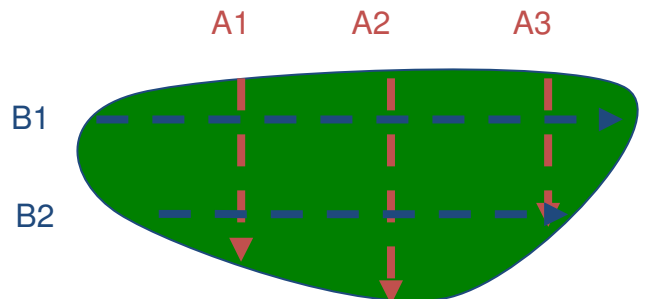
Measure all lines: A1, A2, A3, B1 & B2

Then add A1 + A2 + A3 and then $\div 3 = A$

Now add B1 + B2 and then $\div 2 = B$

Now you can do the calculation:

$$A \times B = \text{Area in SQUARE UNITS}$$



Note: If you measure 4 points e.g. A1, A2, A3 & A4 then you would divide by 4 not 3 etc

Conversion

Measured in metres?

If you've been able to measure in metres you're finished. Keep a record of the area for each lawn for future reference. You can do this at www.lawnsmith.co.uk/html/mylawnsmith/registeredit/ if you wish.

Measured in feet?

If your measurements were in feet then multiply all your area SQUARE UNITS by 0.0929

e.g. If your area was 1150 square feet $\times 0.0929 = 106.8$ square metres

Call it 110 square metres.

Measured in yards?

If your measurements were in yards then multiply all your area SQUARE UNITS by 0.836127

e.g. If your area was 130 square yards $\times 0.836127 = 108.69$ square metres

Call it 110 square metres.

For an online converter go to <http://www.digitaldutch.com/unitconverter/>