HG 306
2013

How to Measure Your Yard

To apply the correct amount of fertilizer on your lawn, you need to know its surface area.

First, determine the total area of your property. Second, subtract the areas not to be fertilized. The remaining square footage is the number needed to determine how much fertilizer is needed. (See Figure 1)

Total lot: Lot, 125' x 100'   = 12,500 sq. ft.

Subtract: House, 44' x 26'   = 1,144 sq. ft.
               Deck, 12' x 12'   = 144 sq. ft.
               Drive, 40' x 10'   = 400 sq. ft.
               Garden, 25' x 15'   = 375 sq. ft.
               Walk, 4' x 20'   = 80 sq. ft.

Total to subtract   = 2,143 sq. ft.
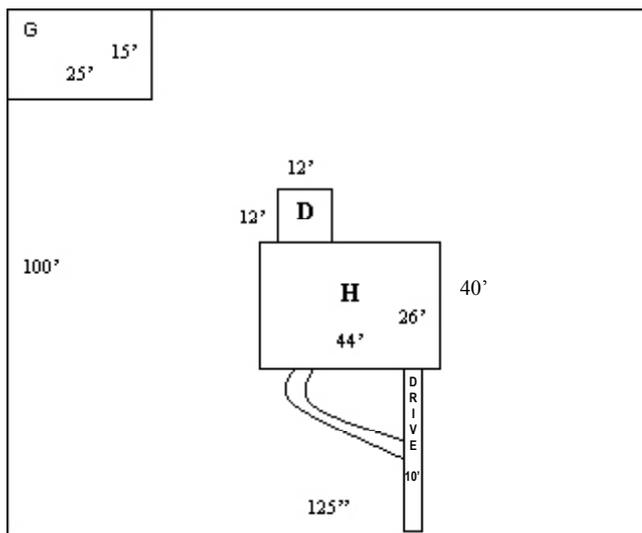**Remainder**: Yard   = 10,357 sq. ft.

Figure 1.

How to determine the square footage of some familiar shapes

Squares, rectangles

Area = Length x width

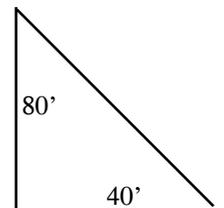Length = 50'
Width = 30'
Area: 50' x 30' = 1,500 sq. ft.

Triangles

Area = .5 x base x height

Base = 40'
Height = 80'
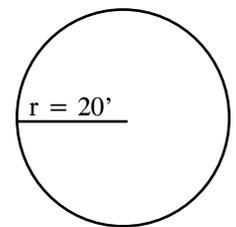Area: .5 x 40' x 80' = 1,600 sq. ft.

Circles
Area = D x r^2
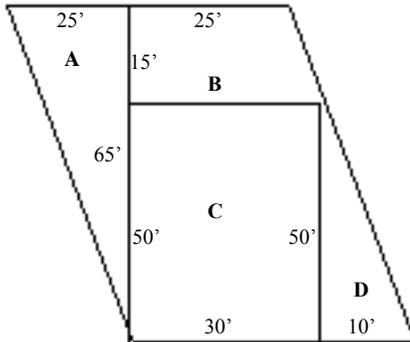(D = 3.14)

r (radius) = 20'
Area; 3.14 x (20' x 20') = 1,256 sq. ft.

Irregular shapes

Divide area into smaller sections having familiar shapes (e.g. triangles A and D; rectangles B and C), then:

Area = Area A + Area B + Area C + Area D

A: .5 x 25' x 65' = 813 sq. ft.
B: 15' x 25' = 375 sq. ft.
C: 50' x 30' = 1,500 sq. ft.
D: .5 x 10' x 50 = 250 sq. ft.

Area: 813 + 375 + 1,500 + 250 = 2,938 sq. ft.

Use the space below to draw your yard. Record the area in the box below.

Total lot: _____

Subtract: House   _____
               Deck   _____
               Drive   _____
               Garden   _____
               Walk   _____
               Other   _____

Total to subtract   _____
Remainder: Yard   _____

Do you have a plant or insect pest question?
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