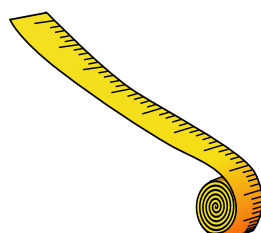


How to Prepare A Cricket Pitch in 5 Steps!

1

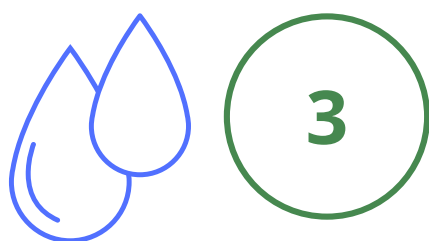


Identify the pitch which should be 74ft long (4 ft back each end from stumps) and 10 ft wide. Preparation period is often two-weeks in Spring and 1-2 weeks during the hotter months.

2

Now you have identified which pitch to use, cut it out with a cylinder mower set at around 10-12mm. Now brush/rake as required to expose some soil and take the thickness out of the grass canopy(as/if required).

Thinning can take place all at once, or can be done during the pitch preparation period as desired.



Assess whether the pitch needs water adding to the soil profile. This can be done by means of irrigation and it is common to water between 1-4 inches deep, depending on available water pressure and resources. There is no point adding water to depth, if the pitch profile is already moist to depth.

If only a week of prep, no point adding more water than the weather by evaporation & pitch prep can remove. Where your judgement comes in!



To assess the depth of moisture insert a screwdriver or ideally take a soil profile from the edge of a pitch

4

If you have watered the soil profile to the chosen depth and allowed to dry, so the soil is moist, not wet !This could be a few hours or the next day. If moist not wet, it is time to roll the pitch checking the roller barrels are dry as they pass over the pitch. If they are wet try again later!

Rolling is often carried out more at the start of preparation 30-20 mins a day and then reduced to 10 mins a day as the pitch dries out over the days!

5

Bi-daily cutting till match day, reducing the height of cut (HOC) gradually to your chosen match day HOC . Option to reduce the density of the grass canopy by means of brush/verticut/rake prior to marking out the pitch ready for game day!



Top Tips

Take your time, gradually reduce the HOC, the density and the rolling frequency. If drying out too much, shade the pitch using domes or flat sheets.

You can brush the pitch grass up after rolling, its helps dry the pitch!

How to Mark Out-QR Code

