

Q What does the FIFA Quality Concept for football turf mean?

A FIFA's quality concept is designed to **guarantee the highest quality standard for football turf** and continuous development. Artificial pitches which achieve this standard in terms of robustness and safety following analysis are awarded the "FIFA RECOMMENDED" quality seal. The analysis is conducted by independent test institutes under laboratory conditions and also on the actual pitch that has been laid down. FIFA-certified pitches are permitted for international competitions and are already accepted by numerous professional leagues around the world.

Q How good is football turf as an alternative to natural turf?

A In recent years, football turf has emerged as the **best alternative to natural turf**. Owing to weather conditions and organisational or economic reasons, it is not always possible to ensure that natural-grass football pitches are playable. FIFA therefore recommends the use of high-quality football turf. This is weather-resistant, provides the end user with more playing hours and can be used all year round for football matches and other events. For operators, these properties are reflected in lower operating costs and higher revenue.

Q Is there any difference between matches on football turf and natural turf?

A Numerous studies by medical institutes, player surveys and direct comparisons in tournaments and league matches have shown that games played on high-quality **football turf do not differ from those played on natural turf**. Nor is there any difference in the risk of injury. Detailed case studies on this subject are available in the Library section at fifa.com/footballturf.

Q What is the difference between FIFA RECOMMENDED 1 STAR and 2 STAR pitches?

A FIFA RECOMMENDED 1 STAR pitches are tailored to the requirements in the **amateur sector** (municipal centres, sports grounds for national football matches), whereas 2 STAR pitches cater for the most stringent demands in **top-class international sport**. All the existing 1 STAR and 2 STAR pitches in the world can be found using the FIFA search function at fifa.com/footballturf.

Q What must I bear in mind when preparing a FIFA RECOMMENDED football turf pitch?

A Factors such as the nature of the substrate, the local conditions (size and structure of the centre) and agreement and coordination with the contractor must be borne in mind. Detailed information on this subject is provided in the FIFA Step Guide "**Step by step to a FIFA RECOMMENDED football turf field**" in the Library section at fifa.com/footballturf.

Q How do I obtain a quote for a FIFA-certified artificial pitch?

A You can find a **list of FIFA Preferred Producers** who offer FIFA RECOMMENDED artificial pitches at fifa.com/footballturf. Opting for a Preferred Producer offers many benefits: they are qualified in all areas of sports centre construction – from planning and installation right through to regular maintenance of the artificial pitch – and they **offer purchasers a comprehensive guarantee**. Further information and contact data for the FIFA Preferred Producers and other manufacturers is available on fifa.com/fpp.

Q How high are the costs for a FIFA-certified artificial pitch?

A The actual **costs depend on various factors**. Case studies of various football clubs, including calculation and financing examples, are provided under "Information Material" in the Library section at fifa.com/footballturf. FIFA recommends that purchasers of artificial pitches compare offers from various producers of high-quality artificial turf.

Q How should football turf be cared for?

A Although the effort required to care for football turf is lower than for natural turf, an **artificial pitch must be maintained regularly** to ensure that it remains playable for many years. Detailed information on this subject is available in the Library section at fifa.com/footballturf.

More information about the FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf, the FIFA Preferred Producers as well as FIFA RECOMMENDED Football Turf pitches is available at:
www.fifa.com/footballturf

E-Mail: football.turf@fifa.org

