

Installation guide for Multimat – Slopes & Channels

Site Preparation

For both slope and channel applications, the site must be shaped to the design specifications (grade, geometry, soil compaction, etc.). The area should then be dressed to be free of soil clods, clumps, rocks or vehicle imprints of any significant size that would prevent the Multimat from lying flush to surface contours.

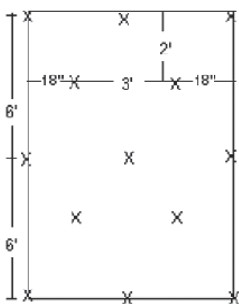
Note: A key factor in the effectiveness of Multimat is to maintain intimate contact with the prepared soil surface.

Anchor Trench

Anchor trenches are required to securely fasten the Multimat to the ground surface. Anchor trenches are installed at least 3 feet beyond the crest of the slope in a slope application. In channel applications, the initial anchor trench is installed at the beginning of the channel and intermediate check slots are spaced at approximately 25 -60 foot intervals downstream — depending on flow conditions and whether or not the Multimat is soil filled. The anchor trench/intermediate check slots should be at least 6-9 inches wide and 6-9 inches deep. The Multimat is installed into the trench and fastened at the bottom of the trench with staples/pins spaced 3 feet apart (maximum). The anchor trench/ intermediate check slots are then backfilled and compacted in a manner that does not damage the Multimat.

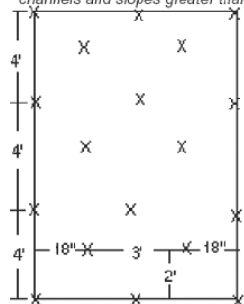
Multimat Installation

Staple pattern for slopes less than 3:1



1.5 Staples /SY

Staple pattern for low flow/gradient channels and slopes greater than 3:1

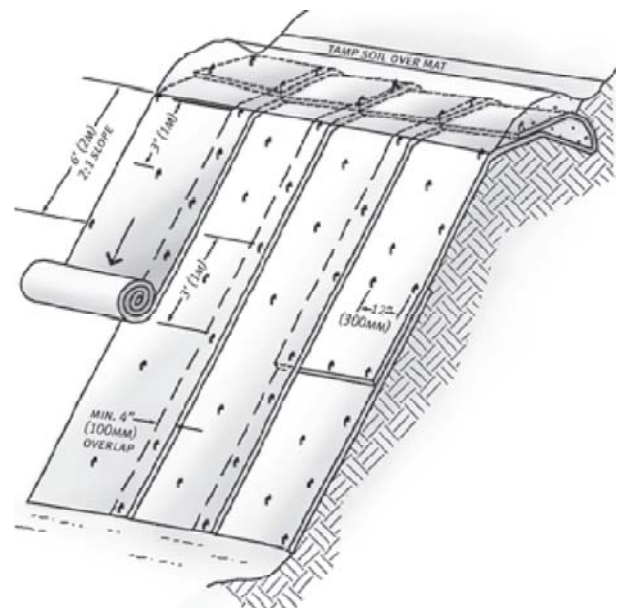


2 Staples /SY

Once anchored, deploy the Multimat by rolling down the slope or channel. Overlaps (edge to edge) between rolls should be 3 to 4 inches. The (end to end) splice between rolls should be 2 to 3 feet and shingled in the direction of water flow. Always securely fasten to the ground the edges of the Multimat and overlaps with intervals of 3 feet (to 5 feet, depending on geometry of the slope or channel).

Securely fasten down the center of each roll staggering centerline fasteners between the outside fasteners with a spacing interval of 3 to 5 feet. Anchoring patterns will vary depending upon application, soil type, slope or channel slope, geometry, etc. Rather than try to determine the anchorage on a project-by-project basis, it has become standard practice to rely on empirically derived charts, such as Chart 1 below, that relate anchor frequency to slope and channel conditions.

Slope & Channel Anchorage of TRM



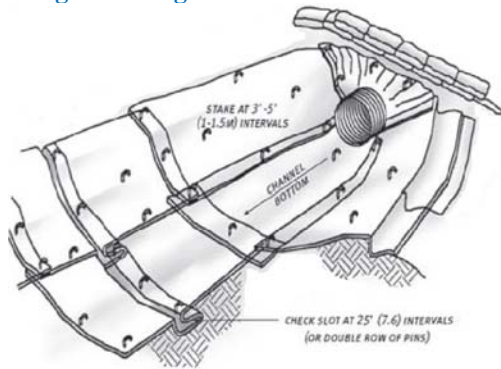
Further, a general rule of thumb for estimating the amount of staples required for project is as following:

- Slopes 1:1 to 2:1: 3-4 fasteners per square yard
- Slopes 3:1 or less: 2-3 fasteners per square yard
- High Flow Channels: 3-4 fasteners per square yard
- Low Flow Channels: 2-3 fasteners per square yard

Always install two rows of pins/staples spaced 1.5 x 1.5 feet apart at all roll splice locations. Always lay Multimat so that contact with the soil is maintained at all times. After the Multimats installed, go back over the Multimat and install additional fasteners as required to ensure the Multimat is in intimate contact with the soil.

Note: A detailed step-by-step installation guides available from your Multimat distributor or directly from SynTec at your request.

Anchoring/Fastening Devices



Wire (sod) staples (U-shaped), geotextile pins or (triangular) wooden stakes can be used as fasteners. Staples should be the type made from a minimum 11 gauge metal wire and metal pins should have a minimum diameter of 3/16" with a 1.5" steel washer at one end to form a head. Staple/pin length will vary (6"-18") according to soil conditions but should be a minimum 6" and have a ground penetration sufficient to resist pulling out once installed. Staples/pins should be installed flush with the soil surface. If wooden stakes are used, approximately 2" of the stake should remain above ground to secure the Multimat. In some cases, 12-30" J-shaped pins are used and are made from re-bar with a minimum diameter of 1/4".

Note: It is important around any penetration through the Multimat that additional anchorage be provided. The most common penetrations involve pipes, manholes or landscaping which the Multimat can be easily cut to fit neatly. It is at these locations that additional anchorage will be required. These areas are notoriously prone to concentrated erosion and therefore special attention is necessary.

Seeding & Soil Filling

When the Multimat is installed prior to seeding, it must be subsequently seeded and, when directed, backfilled with soil. [This is possible with Multimat because it has an open structure that facilitates soil filling.]

Seeding: Often the recommended seed mixture is seeded onto the prepared soil surface. Yet, Multimat, with its highly open structure, can alternately accommodate seeding directly into the mat, enhancing future turf reinforcement. Every effort should be made to obtain a uniform distribution over the seeded area. If hydroseeding is used, the hydroseeder should have continuous agitation action that keeps the seed mixed in the water slurry until pumped from the tank and the pump pressure is maintained such that a continuous non-fluctuating stream is maintained. If distribution of hydroseeding is not uniform, the affected areas should be reseeded. The seed fertilizer mixture shall be used within 4 hours of adding the seed to the tank. Seed that is allowed to remain mixed with the fertilizer for longer than 4 hours should not be accepted for use. Typical seed, mulch and fertilizer application rates should be obtained through the project engineer/architect and be native to the particular region where the project is located. It should be noted that seeding during winter months might need to be repeated when temperatures rise — unless

Multimat is used to protect the dormant seed from being washed away. Multimat's protection of disturbed, seeded areas during the winter season can lead to vigorous spring growth and little off-site movement of sediment.

Soil Filling: Typically, once seeded, same day soil filling is preferred. Depending on the system design, the cover soil may be a special topsoil or simply general backfill. In either case, consideration must be made for the proper placement of the soil layer to completely fill the Multimat without overfilling (which may prevent germination) or causing construction damage. When soil filling is recommended following seeding, a thin layer (approximately 1/2 in. - 3/4 in.) of fine soil (such as sandy loam) should be spread on top of the Multimat. The topsoil should be lightly raked (using the backside of the rake) or brushed into the mat apertures to completely fill the mat thickness. Hand implements (shovels, rakes, and brooms) are recommended for soil filling of the Multimat. Avoid all traffic on the newly installed Multimat.

Temporary protection: Soil filled Multimat may experience erosion of the backfill when a significant rainfall event occurs. This can remove some of the protective soil from above the seed and increase the sediment yield from the protected area. If frequent and/or heavy precipitation is expected during the germination and early vegetation establishment periods, then traditional mulch or an economical organic blanket can be deployed above the Multimat to provide additional temporary protection.

Sod Cover: The Multimat should be soil-filled with an appropriate topsoil mixture, taking care to evenly distribute the soil throughout the mat so that the mat is thoroughly covered. The sod should be placed directly on the soil-filled Multimat and secured with appropriate sod staples or pins. This will ensure the temporary stability of the newly placed sod while root growth and reinforcement is established. [The sod will normally contain 1" to 1.5" of soil, which should result in the Multimat at an elevation 1.2" to 1.7" below the surface. If sod contains less than 1" of soil, additional topsoil should be placed prior to sodding to provide adequate coverage]

Maintenance of Seeded Areas: Proper care of seeded areas is especially important during the period of vegetation establishment. The establishment period typically extends for 3 months after completion of the seeding unless the desired growth is established in a shorter period of time. When any portion of the surface becomes gullied or otherwise damaged, or when the treatment is destroyed, the affected portion should be repaired to reestablish the condition and grade of soil and treatment which existed prior to the damage.

Repairs: If a repair is required because the Multimat has been accidentally damaged, a patch of the same base Multimat type should be cut to fit over, and sufficiently beyond, the damaged area to permit joining to or anchoring through the parent Multimat. Care and attention to detail should be given to assure proper "shingling" and anchorages are maintained in the repaired section.



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