

AVOID DAMAGE FROM REFLECTIVE SUNLIGHT / HEAT

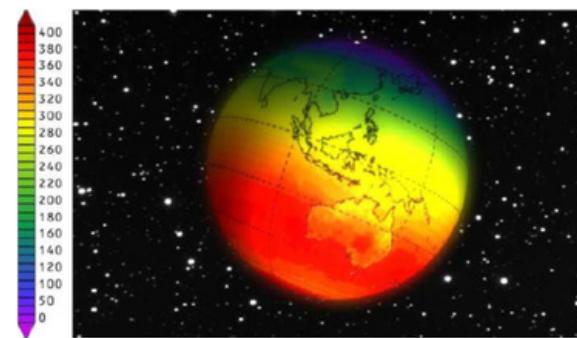
Prices for synthetic turf are now more affordable and there is relatively little maintenance involved compared with a natural grass surface as there is no need for mowing, weed killers, watering etc. This increase in installations of artificial grass surfacing means many more people are enjoying high quality and aesthetically beautiful turf surfaces at home and in public sports areas. However there can be some problems with synthetic grass which are sometimes difficult to avoid.

The best quality turf is made from a polyethylene material and when sunlight is reflected off a shiny or reflective surface, its heat is concentrated and intensified, if this heat comes into contact with the polyethylene for a sustained period of time it will cause its temperature to increase. APT artificial grass is designed to withstand our harsh Australian climate to normal surface temperatures of approximately 65-75 degrees Celsius. If the temperature increases above melting point the turf fibres will begin to shrink and eventually disintegrate or melt completely. This can occur if sunlight is reflected off surfaces such as doors, windows, polished gutters, mirrors, reflective panels or any other surface which sunlight can bounce off and reflect onto your turf.

There are a number of methods you can use and combine to protect your artificial grass surface, or to avoid problems if you're planning on installing one in the future. If at all possible, it is advised that you tackle any surface which is going to reflect intense heat onto your grass, for example covering windows with a screen or awning, using non-reflective paint on shiny surfaces like gutters and drainpipes or adjusting the angle of any reflective panels or mirrors.

If it is not possible to combat the problems caused by reflective surfacing, for example if it is from another building or house, and the sunlight is only affecting a specific area of the grass, it may be a good idea to find an alternative for that particular patch of surfacing. For example you could install a soil area with a small tree or plants, a pebbled rockery or maybe a pond, this ensures you still keep the beauty of your artificial grass area but without the damage caused by sunlight.

For example; we recommend avoiding hot spots due to reflected sunlight from fencing by leaving a border between 60cm and 1 metre wide then the border can be planted, paved, or otherwise landscaped.



Extreme levels of Ultra Violet radiation bombard Australia in summer. APT have developed the best ways of tolerating it.