



Synthetic Turf System Investment Return Analysis: Natural vs. Synthetic Turf

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Implementing an A.T.S. Synthetic Turf System is an investment that supports a substantial maintenance and operations savings over an extended period of time, while allowing substantially increased facility use.

Natural Grass vs. Synthetic Turf

The following is a hypothetical study of the comparative costs and benefits of a Synthetic Turf . Costs are for operation of an 80,000sq. ft. field over a 10-year period.

	Natural Grass	Synthetic Turf
PRICE INSTALLED	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 410,000.00
ANNUAL MAINTENANCE	\$ 40,300.00	\$ 3,300.00
RE-SODDING (EVERY 3 YEARS)	\$ 375,000.00	-
TOTAL 10-YEAR COST	\$ 903,000.00	\$ 433,000.00

Over the course of 10 years, A.T.S. Synthetic Turf Systems out performs natural grass for total cash outlay, while providing a surface that is warranted to appear and perform like a world-class professional athletics facility. Such natural grass facilities are often maintained at higher cost than synthetic turf with annual re-sodding and higher maintenance overhead.

A resurfacing of the A.T.S. Synthetic Turf System can be conducted, as needed, at a fraction of the cost of the original installation, allowing facility managers to continue to see cost benefits increase with time. What is of greater importance to facilities and team management is the utility of the field.

The ATS-XP product is designed for extensive, heavy-duty use and can withstand *10 times* the activity of a natural grass field. Over a 10-year span, the A.T.S. Turf System could accommodate over 8,000 uses – about 10 times the maximum usage for the same field in natural grass. Natural grass facilities' 'uptime' can further be compromised by environmental conditions such as drought, inclement weather, heat, cold and the time of day that they are maintained and used. ATS-XP is not affected by any of these environmental stresses, which could quickly result in a sub-standard surface or the need for costly repair or remodel in natural grass applications.

The comparison chart on the following page shows the advantages of the A.T.S. Synthetic Turf System that go beyond the mere cost of the system.

Synthetic Turf vs. Natural Grass Comparison

Synthetic Turf System	Natural Grass
UTILITY	
Can accommodate sustained use, even under environmental stresses, amounting to 8-12 times the annual use of a natural grass surface.	Requires recovery between events, after rainfall, watering and some maintenance activities. With careful maintenance, can only accommodate 1/10 th the activity of a synthetic surface.
APPEARANCE	
Will appear as a well-maintained and groomed grass-playing surface with minimal effort.	Requires regimented maintenance for best appearance. May discolor or die in unsightly patches.
SAFETY	
Even, consistent surface lends to fewer injuries over natural grass. All-rubber infill material softens impact, provides positive traction and a better, more consistent Gmax rating. About 40% fewer injuries observed in independent study.	Uneven surface, which could compact to hard, high impact areas or slippery, unpredictable mud conditions. Lower, less consistent Gmax rating, higher abrasion and presence of such hazards as irrigation system appurtenances compromise safety.
PERFORMANCE	
Faster playing surface throughout field with consistent, enhanced traction for any athletic shoe. Balls will react similarly to well-groomed grass.	Inconsistent sometimes-patchy growth can cause unpredictable ball movements.
WARRANTY	
Insurable 8-year manufacturer's warranty or available 10-year extended manufacturer's warranty.	Rarely warranted, except for quality of original installation.