

## ***GUIDE TO INSTALLATION & APPLICATIONS***

### **What are Geotextiles?**

They are permeable textile products used within the building and construction industry to assist in a construction with soil and/or rock. Their ever increasing use in Civil Engineering is now spilling over into the domestic market where numerous uses can be found around the home.

### **How do they work?**

Geotextiles perform several different functions; the two main functions of Separation and Filtration however account for approximately 80% of their usage.

As a **Separation** product the use of a geotextile between two dissimilar soil materials prevents them from intermixing. An example of this could be the geotextile preventing gravel used to form a driveway from being pushed down into the underlying soil.

As a **Filtration** layer the use of a geotextile allows the passage of water from a soil whilst preventing the uncontrolled passage of soil particles. An example of use could be a geotextile wrapped around a granular drainage trench.

### **Typical applications around the home include:-**

- \* **Preventing the loss of granular material into the underlying soil under driveways and access roads, footpaths, patios and other paved surfaces.**
- \* **Preventing soil from passing into drainage systems such as drainage trenches, back of wall drains and soakaways.**
- \* **Help towards Suppressing weed growth under landscaped areas covers with tree bark or pea gravel** (however correct installation and regular maintenance is vital for this. Experience tells us that the geotextile will make life a lot easier when it comes to weed growth but seeds can be transferred by the wind or placed by birds in the mulch. If this occurs the seeds will germinate and root down through the geotextile, so to prevent this happening check once a month and remove any shallow rooting weeds. Also if using pea gravel it is good practice to use washed gravel as many weed seeds can lay dormant for years. Not guaranteed to stop 100% weedgrowth as it is not purposely manufactured for this).

### **Installation Instructions (help as a weed suppressant or go straight to point 2 if not for weed suppression)**

1. Treat the area in question with a suitable Weed killer (such as Roundup or Rootout) some weeks before installation until the area is brown and the weeds are dead. Although geotextile is not guaranteed to prevent weeds coming through there is a better chance of success if the weed killer is used correctly as per the manufacturers instructions. Certain factors can affect the weed killer's success, e.g. weather conditions, time of year etc, it is recommended you seek advice as to which weed killer is the best for your particular application.
2. Once the area has been treated with weed killer correctly, remove any dead weeds, large rocks or sharp edges and other obstacles and level the surface.
3. Unfold the geotextile into position, cutting to size with a sharp knife or scissors as necessary. Where wide areas require to be covered simply overlap two layers by 300mm.
4. Spread the mulch / fill over the top of the geotextile, compact as necessary ensuring that there is enough fill to completely cover the geotextile, usually between 75 to 150mm is required depending on whether the area is trafficked or not – if enough fill is not used it will enable the light to get through and therefore encourage weed growth. The geotextile within this pack is suitable for use with fill materials such as sand, gravel, tree bark or top soil. (Please note that mulch/fill may need to be replenished over the years).

**\*\*NOTE: PLEASE REFER TO OUR PRODUCT "WEEDSTOPPA" FOR A LANDSCAPE FABRIC THAT WILL GUARANTEE NO WEED GROWTH \*\***