

Weed Barrier



Description

Weed barrier cloth is a geotextile composed of polypropylene (or on occasion, polyester) with a meshed texture similar to burlap. These are both types of weed barriers with 'weed barrier' being a brand name that has come into common use for any garden weed barrier.

Attaining popularity in the mid 1980's, garden weed barriers composed of these geotextiles are usually covered with mulch for not only aesthetic reasons but to also hinder the degradation of the fabric weed barrier from the sun and to help maintain consistent moisture beneath the weed barrier cloth.

This fabric weed barrier is used to reduce the amount of weed infiltration while still allowing water, fertilizer and oxygen to filter through to the plant, a definite improvement over laying plastic down as garden weed barriers. Fabric weed barrier is also biodegradable and resists deterioration from sun exposure.

How to use Weed Barrier

- The question of how to use a weed barrier is pretty straightforward. First, one must clear the area of weeds where the garden weed barriers will be laid. Usually, the manufacturer's instructions want the fabric laid and then slits cut into it where the plants will be dug in. However, one may also plant the shrubs or other plants first and then lay the fabric over the top, working the slit down over the plant down to the ground. Whichever way you decide to approach the laying of the garden weed barrier, the final step is to lay a 1- to 3-inch layer of mulch over the weed barrier cloth to retain moisture, for appearance sake and assist in retarding weed growth.