



Ordering Mulch

Step 1 ~ Which Mulch?

Choosing mulch comes down to 3 questions:

1. What do you want the mulch to do?
2. What do you want the mulch to look like?
3. How much do you want to spend?

Mulch serves 4 different purposes.

1. To beautify your landscape

For many people, this is the most important function of mulch. A freshly mulched garden looks finished, clean and crisp for the summer season.

2. Mulch helps to keep down weeds

3. Mulch also helps hold moisture in the soil which equals less watering

Weeds can grow in anything; however the mulch allows the soil to retain moisture while making it easier to pull the weeds out of the soil.

4. Mulch adds nutrients to the soil as it decomposes

This is an important aspect of mulching. Not all mulches decompose (break down) the same way. If you choose dyed wood mulch, they will take a long time to decompose. This may seem like an advantage, but in most cases, it is not. Because wood chip mulches are harder for nature to break down, they actually pull more nutrients from the soil than they add back in. Also, mulch looks tired after about 1 year, and most people like to refresh it each year. If you add a layer of new bark mulch on top of the older bark mulch, the bottom layer will continue its decomposition process while the new bark mulch sits there looking fresh and clean. Adding a layer of wood mulch on top of old wood mulch, the bottom layer just sits there, refusing to become one with the soil beneath. After a while, you'll need to remove the old layers of wood mulch before putting new stuff down or run the risk of starving your plants, shrubs and trees of water and oxygen due to the thick layer of wood mulch.

A mulch to match your style and budget

Our bulk mulches come in many different colors, textures and materials. If you're looking for the most economical, our Double Processed Hardwood Bark Mulch (or) Triple Processed Hardwood Bark Mulch are most economical.

DYED MULCHES

- Color lasts all season (see information)
- Virgin product from the timber industry
- All natural, organic dye

Red: Timber Ridge Enviro Dyed Wood Red

Brown: Grandscape Brown Dyed Double Processed Bark Mulch, Grandscape Brown Dyed Triple Processed Bark Mulch, Timber Ridge Enviro Dyed Wood Brown, Natures Treasure Compost, Sweet Peet, Double Processed Hardwood Bark Mulch (or) Triple Processed Hardwood Bark Mulch

Black: Grandscape Black Dyed Double Processed Bark Mulch, Grandscape Brown Dyed Triple Processed Bark Mulch, Timber Ridge Enviro Dyed Wood Black

Natural Color: Playground Mulch (typically used for playground surfaces), Tree chippings (supplied by local tree service companies)

Dyed mulches require a little extra planning, but their long-lived color makes the effort worthwhile! We carry only the highest quality mulches, dyed or natural color. All of our mulch is processed here in Ohio. We buy local, so please buy local.

The Coloring Process

To understand how colored mulch may occasionally experience product "washing", it is necessary to have a general understanding of how the color-enriching process works. The colorant is dispersed in a water-based solution in the production process. Water is the carrier that enables the colorant to coat the wood fiber surface. While water is of great value to help evenly coat the wood fiber with rich color, it also acts as a carrier between the wood and colorant particles until fully dried. When the mulch is completely dry the colorant particles bond to the wood and cannot be broken just by adding additional water, such as rain or a sprinkler system. The bond needs time to form between the colorant particle and the wood fiber. This is referred to as ***critical drying time***.

There is no steadfast rule on what is the required ***critical drying time***. Base fiber moisture content, production inventory time and weather all contribute to the variability, yielding a wide range in possible drying time requirements. Experience tells us the range of 24-72 hours is a comfortable window. The timeframe is based on the when the product is installed, not produced.

For best results when using dyed mulch:

- Dump dyed mulches on tarps to avoid discoloration of concrete. If tarp is not available, wet the surface and then wash area with soap and water after the mulch has been moved.

- Avoid exposing dyed mulch to rain or sprinklers for 24-48 hours after applying mulch to your landscaping.
- If dyed mulch has been delivered and rain is expected, do not spread the mulch. Cover it with a tarp until there will be 24-48 hours of no rain. Do not install the mulch if rain is in the forecast. If possible, you should try to find a window of no less than 48 hours of rain free weather as critical drying time is needed.
- Rinse landscaping tools immediately after use to avoid staining and use gloves when handling dyed mulches.
- In the event colorant dries on surfaces, use SimpleGreen® cleaning solution to remove stain. Renewing “Washed” Product.
- In the event that “washing” (dye rinsing off) does occur, there are options available to amend your mulched areas. If the material has been delivered and is in a bulk pile, the washed product can simply be mixed in with the rest of the mulch as it should be just a surface wash. There will be enough colored mulch in the pile to blend in with the surface material. There will be no product loss.

If the material has been applied to the landscape, there are two options to remedy the situation.

1. Lightly rake the surface. Colorant loss is normally limited to the top half inch of material. Mulch is normally applied at a two-inch depth leaving plenty of material to cover the surface once it's flipped over.
2. Top coat the surface with an additional half inch of fresh color-enriched product.

Avoid scheduling your delivery and / or application on a day when heavy rain is forecasted. If you do take delivery and rain is in the forecast make sure to cover the pile with a tarp.

Want the same stuff you got last year? If you bought it from us, we can tell you what you purchased in the past!

Step 2 ~ How much?

This is a very important question. You'll appreciate how important if you've ever ordered 1 yard less than you need or 3 yards more than you could possibly ever use.

We can help you figure out how much you need. Just measure the areas you need to cover. If you have several areas, get a length & width for each section (do not add up your lengths and widths). Once you have come up with the appropriate measurements, then you can either call us or access our mulch calculator on line at www.mryardoh.com

Mulch is typically spread 2 -2 ½ inches deep. Spreading mulch too deep will keep air and water from getting to your plants, so don't overdo it.

Also, we offer fill it yourself bags, just in case you run slightly short.

Here is the equation for determining how much mulch you will need:

$$L \times W \div 12 \times \text{inches deep} \div 27 = \text{cubic yards}$$

In other words

$$\text{Length} \times \text{Width} = \text{Square Feet}$$
$$\text{Square Feet} \div 12 \times \text{inches deep (in inches)} \div 27 = \text{cubic yards}$$

Going with bags? Each bag can range from 1 to 2 cubic feet.

Step 3 ~ When and Where

When can I have it delivered?

We deliver 7 days a week after April 15th until July 1st. After July 1st. we deliver 6 days per week.

Where can my mulch be delivered?

We will always ask “**where on your driveway would you like it dumped?**” Please note the not-so-subtle mention of “driveway”. This is crucial. Our trucks are not designed to go off-road. Off-road means off of a paved surface or established drive area. We will not pull on to your grass or dirt areas, as our truck may get stuck.

Mr. Yard will not be held liable or responsible for any damages occurring to personal property past the curb line. All customers must realize that the size and weight of trucks, machines and materials contained in them could possibly damage the driveway, sidewalk, house, garage, buildings, vehicles, lawns, shrubs, utility wires, or any other items or property, real or personal located at the delivery site.

NOTE: Our drivers are not permitted to fold in any mirror at any time. If the truck will not fit past a house, gate, tree, shrub, etc without folding in a mirror, then the truck will not fit.

To order

Simply stop in at the Mr. Yard landscape supply yard or call **440-235-2358**. If you're not sure which type of mulch you want, we highly recommend stopping in to take a look at our mulch selection in person.