

**A SIMPLE**

# **LAWN MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE**

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**10 Steps a Lush Lawn**



# A Simple Lawn Maintenance Schedule – 10 Steps a Lush Lawn

## INTRODUCTION

Some ‘experts’ will lead you to believe that you need to spend lots of money and follow a super complicated plan to achieve a great looking lawn.

While there is merit in these advanced guides, most people don’t need anything so complicated.

With a little planning, and some local knowledge you can have a great looking lawn with a minimal amount of planning and effort.


















This book gives you the key to a great looking lawn. And the good news? It is all done in 10 (mostly) simple steps.





# LAWN MAINTENANCE CALENDAR

## A SIMPLE LAWN CARE SCHEDULE

	 <b>WINTER</b>	 <b>SPRING</b>	 <b>SUMMER</b>	 <b>FALL</b>
<b>Mowing Height</b>	3 inches	3-4 inches	3-4 inches	3 inches
<b>Dethatching</b>				
<b>Apply Pre-emergent Herbicide</b>				
<b>Soil Test</b>				
<b>Apply Fertilizer</b>				
<b>Apply Grub Control (if needed)</b>				
<b>Weed Control (manually or with selective herbicide)</b>				
<b>Soil Aeration</b>				
<b>Overseeding</b>		 (warm season grass)		 (cool season grass)

## A Few Important Tips

It should be noted that this plan is written around a northern cool season lawn. Although it can be applied to any zone, you may have to adjust the timings a little.

In order to keep this guide as simple as possible, we have not gone into detail on what each step is and how to complete it. Where it will help, I will provide a link to a helpful resource in case you need to research each step further.

Apart from the mowing height, we do not mention mowing in this guide. You should mow your lawns as per best practices – the main rule is don't mow too short!

When it comes to watering your lawn, it really just takes common sense. If it has been dry-then water 1-2 times a week if needed. If it has been wet, then there is probably no need to water.



**Pro Tip:** Use a tailored fertilizer like [Sunday Lawn Care](#) to make life easier



If you aren't sure about how long to water your lawn, then you can use the ['tuna can' rule](#)

# Spring Schedule

Spring Mowing Height:  
**3-4 INCHES**

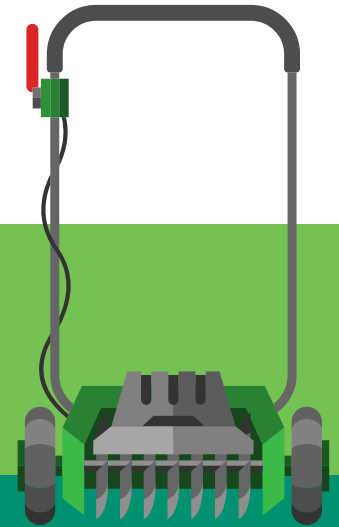


# Dethatching



Thatch removal is an essential part of keeping grass healthy “Dethatching” lawns refer to the mechanical removal from a lawn of the layer of dead turfgrass tissue known as “thatch.”

This residue is bad for your grass, as it keeps water and nutrients from seeping down to grassroots. Clean up and sticks or clutter on your lawn.



DETHATCH YOUR LAWN TO OPEN IT UP AND GET THE AIR CIRCULATING AROUND THE BASE OF THE GRASS.

YOU WILL NEED: **A dethatcher**



There is a good demonstration of dethatching in this [video](#).



**THESE COME IN A FEW DIFFERENT TYPES:**

- ✓ Dethatching rakes
- ✓ Tow behind dethatchers
- ✓ Power dethatchers (gas or electric)



# Apply a Spring Pre-emergent



Pre-emergents are a sprayed on chemical that you apply to your lawn. They prevent weed seeds from growing roots and shoots. This application targets summer annuals.

When exactly to apply the pre-emergent herbicide depends on your zone and what weeds you typically have in your lawn. But it needs to be applied before the weed seeds have germinated. Generally this is early spring.



YOU WILL NEED:

**A Pre-emergent liquid herbicide**  
We recommend [Prodiamine](#).

OR

**A [granular Pre-emergent herbicide](#)**

# Test Your Soil



You need to test the soil in your lawn to see what nutrients your lawn required and thus choose a fertilizer to apply.

Make sure you choose a good soil test kit that tests for N,P,K as well as pH levels.



**YOU WILL NEED: A soil test kit**



# Apply Fertilizer and Grub Control



If you used the soil test kit listed above then you will likely have an idea of the fertilizer you need. But I would highly recommend talking to your local garden center and ask them to help you choose a fertilizer that is right for your grass type and soil test results.

In early to mid-may apply this fertilizer to your lawn.

If you have had grub problems in the past then this is also the time to apply a grub preventer.



## YOU WILL NEED:

### **A suitable Fertilizer**

We recommend speaking to your local garden center for a recommendation or using [Sunday Lawn Care](#)

AND

### **A grub preventer**

# Summer Schedule

Spring Mowing Height:  
**3-4 INCHES**



# Keep On Top of Problematic Weeds



From late May through till early July you need to keep on top of any problematic weeds that have not been kept away by the pre-emergent herbicide.

You can do this by manually removing weeds or by using selective herbicides (otherwise known as weed and feeds). If you are going to use herbicides, make sure you wait at least 3 weeks between applications.



Read our guide on [ways to remove weeds here](#).



**YOU MAY NEED: A suitable selective herbicide**



# Mid Summer Fertilizer Application (Optional)



Depending on how well your lawn is coping with summer, you may want to apply a mid-summer fertilizer.

You can choose whether you want to do this, but you may find that the lawn just grows too fast if you do and needs mowing too regularly!



YOU MAY NEED:

## A Fertilizer

We recommend speaking to your local garden center for a recommendation or using [Sunday Lawn Care](#)

# Late Summer Aeration

Towards the end of summer you will want to aerate your lawn to relieve soil compaction.

There are many ways to do this, but the quickest and most cost effective way to do this is to rent a core aerator machine.



We have a guide on [relieving soil compaction here](#).



YOU MAY NEED:

## **An Aerator**

There are many types of aeration tools available, but we recommend hiring one.



# Overseeding - If Needed

Overseeding is where you plant seed where you already have grass, without tearing up the old stuff. It is a way to fill in bare spots and improve the density of your lawn. This is done after the aeration.

If your lawn isn't looking great then you probably want to do this part.

If your lawn is a cool-season grass then you will want to do this late summer/early fall.

If you have a warm-season grass then late winter/early spring is the best time.



Check out our guide on [How to overseed a lawn.](#)



After applying the seed make sure you water it 2-3 times a day for at least 3 weeks.

You can then go back to watering 1 – 2 times a week.



## YOU WILL NEED:

**Metal Rake**  
**Quality Soil**

**Grass Seed**  
**Fertilizer**

**Seed/Fertilizer Spreader**



# Fall & Winter Schedule

Spring Mowing Height:  
**3 INCHES**



# Apply Fall Pre-emergent



If you overseeded, then you need to wait at least 50 days before doing this step.

Before the temperature starts to drop consistently below 70 degrees you should apply a pre-emergent herbicide to stop the winter annual weeds coming through.



YOU WILL NEED:

**A Pre-emergent liquid herbicide**  
We recommend [Prodiamine](#).

OR

**A granular Pre-emergent herbicide**

# Apply Fall Fertilizer



Now is the time to get your lawn ready to survive the winter months. Applying a 'winterizer' fertilizer is an important part of your annual lawn care plan.

Apply your fall fertilizer in late September or early October.



You can learn more about [winterizer fertilizers in our article here.](#)



YOU WILL NEED:

**A Pre-emergent liquid herbicide**  
We recommend [Prodiamine.](#)

OR

**A granular Pre-emergent herbicide**



# Get Started!

There is no better time to start this plan than now. It does not have to be started in spring – jump in at any time and get your lawn on the way to looking great!

**Before you know it your lawn will be the envy of the street!**

