

# GETTING THE BEST FROM YOUR LAWN

## **FEBRUARY - MARCH (EARLY SPRING)**

- This is the time when most remedial work is done, but only when the weather is mild and dry. If it's frosty or the ground is waterlogged, do nothing at all.
- If needed, apply moss killer.
- Spike lawn now if you didn't do so in autumn.
- Start mowing as soon as the grass begins to grow, raising mower blades to the highest setting.

## **APRIL - MAY (LATE SPRING)**

- Lawns that are patchy can have bare patches reseeded. Keep newly sown areas watered during dry spells.
- Apply fertiliser and weed/moss killer, using the correct feed for this time of year (one with a high nitrogen content)
- Mow regularly, gradually lowering the blades, bearing in mind that the shorter the grass the less resistant it is to wear and tear and the more likely it is to suffer from water shortage.

## **JUNE - AUGUST (SUMMER)**

- Continue to mow regularly. In dry spells, although the lawn is hardly growing, it's still worth mowing to remove any tall sprouts that appear and cut off weed seed heads.
- If after a long dry spell your lawn is looking a bit brown, don't panic. Unless it is a new lawn, it will recover quickly.
- Don't feed your lawn or apply weed/moss killers in dry conditions. They will burn the grass.
- If a cool spell occurs, patchy areas can still be reseeded.

## SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER (AUTUMN)

- Remove fallen leaves from your lawn regularly.
- Continue to mow regularly, gradually increasing the height of the blades. If you leave the grass too short in the winter, it will be vulnerable to frost damage.
- Apply autumn feed to help toughen up the grass for the winter.
- Spike to aerate the lawn.

## NOVEMBER - JANUARY (WINTER)

- The lawn can have its final cut of the year or perhaps slightly earlier if conditions are too wet. Make sure your mower has very sharp blades so they don't tear the grass.
- Continue to clear fallen leaves from your lawn as they can kill the grass beneath.

## TOP TIPS

### AERATE YOUR SOIL

Aerating/spiking your lawn improves drainage and stimulates growth by allowing air to get to the roots. Do it in the spring and the autumn for best results.

### FIX BARE PATCHES

Fix bare patches of grass by overseeding, which increases the density of the grass and reduces the weed and moss growth. Aerate the soil and mix grass seed with compost at the ratio recommended on the product's packet before watering the seeds in.

### TOP DRESS AND LEVEL YOUR LAWN

If your lawn has humps and hollows, top dressing will help level it out. This is best done in the spring or autumn. Mix equal parts of sieved garden soil, compost and sharp sand (not builder's sand).

Rake/brush the mix into the hollows, making sure it's no more than 1cm thick. Don't bury the grass completely or it will die.

