



27<sup>th</sup> March 2024

## Spring lawn care tips with British Garden Centres

The perfect garden lawn is practical to use, lovely to look at and an asset to your home. Spring is the perfect time to breathe new life into your lawn after the winter months so it can flourish all year round and make your neighbours green with envy! The British Garden Centres team take you through the main lawn care tips for spring so you can have a lush green garden all summer long.

### Mowing

Over winter, your grass may have gone dormant and is now waking up. Once your lawn has had a few weeks of new growth you can give it its first mow of the year if the weather isn't wet or frosty. Make sure the mower blades are at their highest setting before cutting, so you don't cut the grass too short or scalp the lawn, as it needs time to recover.

### Aeration

Wet soils are more susceptible to compaction, which means water won't drain, which can often lead to fungal diseases in your lawn.

Aerating your lawn involves perforating the soil with small holes to allow air, water, and nutrients to penetrate the grass roots. This process helps alleviate soil compaction, allowing the roots to grow deeper and stronger.

This can be done with a garden fork, spiked shoes or an aerator which can be found at your local British Garden Centres store. Simply make small holes about 4-5 inches deep, repeating every 6 inches across the garden to let carbon dioxide and oxygen circulate, and water and nutrients down into the lawn root zone.

### Scarifying

You may find that your lawn needs some TLC after the winter months have been wet and that it is overrun with moss and weeds. If you have weeds in your lawn, they will compete for nutrients and moisture with healthy grass, so make sure that they are removed as soon as possible. The best way to remove weeds and moss from your lawn is to use a lawn scarifying rake, uprooting the weeds and moss to allow your grass to breathe.

After scarifying, use a lawn feed to encourage strong new, dark green growth, ready for increased use over the summer.



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Once this has been done, a spring lawn fertiliser and feed towards the end of the month will revive your grass for the season ahead.

### **Seeding**

You may be left with some patches in your grass after scarifying or where it has died down over winter. To seed your, start by selecting high-quality grass seed, easily found in your local store, suited to your soil and garden setting. Prepare the soil by removing debris, weeds, and rocks, then loosen it with a rake or garden fork.

Before reseeding, we recommend testing the soil's acidity, which you can easily do with a soil testing kit. If the pH level is too low, indicating acidity, moss is likely to thrive in your soil. To increase the pH level, consider using lawn seed mixes that contain calcium carbonate as this effectively raises the soil's pH for you.

Spread the grass seed evenly over the prepared soil and gently rake it in for good seed-to-soil contact. Make sure to spread the seed evenly and gently press it down using your feet or a light roller.

After seeding, water the area and keep an eye out for the newly seeded area for signs of germination and continue to water regularly until the grass establishes strong roots. We also recommend not walking on the freshly seeded area until the grass has grown strong enough to withstand foot traffic.

**Amy Stubbs of British Garden Centres** said: "A beautiful lawn can complement your garden effortlessly, but as spring begins, many lawns require some TLC after continuous rain, cold temperatures, and neglect over the winter months. The team at your local British Garden Centres store can advise you on tending to your lawn, and you'll soon reap the rewards of a vibrant, lush green garden that will be the envy of your neighbours all season long."

**ENDS**

**WORD COUNT: 669**

#### **Notes to Editors:**

About the business:

British Garden Centres (BGC) is the UK's largest family-owned garden centre group with 62 centres nationwide. The group is owned and led by The Stubbs family, who also own and operate Woodthorpe Leisure Park in Lincolnshire.

BGC was launched in 1987 with the opening of Woodthorpe Garden Centre by brothers Charles and Robert Stubbs. Since 2018 it has expanded rapidly with the acquisition of 50 garden centres allowing it to grow from its heartland to the business it is now with 62 garden centres spread from Carmarthen to Ramsgate, Wimborne to East Durham.

The group has a team of 2,700 colleagues working across the garden centres, restaurants, 2 growing nurseries, 4 distribution centres, Woodthorpe Leisure Park, and Woody's Restaurant & Bar.



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**Social Media**

Facebook: British Garden Centres

Twitter: @BGCentres

Instagram: @BritishGardenCentres

Website: [www.britishgardencentres.com](http://www.britishgardencentres.com)

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