

Care
Guide



Helping your
lawn bounce
back after a
hot summer

Lawn recovery *made easy*



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for garden pleasure

Lawn recovery

Hot dry summers can cause havoc on lawns but don't worry, they'll soon bounce back after some rain.

Without water to keep them green, grassed areas often turn brown during prolonged dry spells. This is a natural behaviour as grass is able to hibernate through all but the worst drought.

By following our recovery plan, your lawn will soon be looking good again.



Step 1 - During the drought

When your lawn is looking sorry for itself, it's tempting to get outside and try to coax it back into life. Because your lawn has gone into hibernation, the best thing you can do hold back on mowing and lawn treatments and wait for some persistent rain.

If resources allow, you can water the lawn with a hose or sprinkler, but only do so in the late evening when it will have the most benefit and not evaporate away. It's always better to give it an occasional good soaking than to apply water little and often.



Water in late evening to avoid evaporation

Grassed areas often dry out during prolonged hot spells

Step 2 - Signs of recovery

When your grass appears to be actively growing, avoid high foot traffic to give it the best chance of recovery. Repair any patchy areas with lawn seed or a proprietary 'patch fix' product.

If your lawn perished in the heat or is beyond recovery, consider re-seeding with a fast growing lawn seed. The best time to do this is just before it's due to rain, else you'll need to manually water the seed to activate it.

Alternatively, you can wait until early spring to lay new turf and start afresh.

Major Repairs

The best time to make lawn repairs is in March to April or September to October. Loosen the soil in the area to be repaired and apply your seed or turf. If seeding, sow a wider area to help blend the colour of the new seed into your lawn. Water in and protect from birds and pets until established.

Start to mow when over 90% of the lawn is green

Step 3 - Mowing

You can start to mow when over 90% of the lawn is green. Set your cut height to a high position for the first cut and medium height for further cuts. Weekly mowing will help thicken the grass by making it branch.

Try not to scalp the lawn as this will undo your efforts.



Re-seed with a fast growing lawn seed



Step 4 - Feed

Once the lawn is almost recovered, apply an autumn lawn feed to help keep your grass strong and healthy over the winter months.

Autumn feeds are formulated for strong root growth rather than top growth, giving your lawn the best start for the following spring.



Apply an autumn lawn feed

Patching with turf

Fixing brown patches with turf is a quick way to get an instant result. Cut out the area to be patched and loosen the exposed soil underneath. If necessary, add soil to allow the new turf to sit at the same height as the rest of the lawn. When the patch is in place, water in and leave for a couple of weeks to allow it to root.

Step 5 - Autumn lawn maintenance

The milder weather of September and October is perfect for undertaking repairs.

We recommend that you:

- Rake out moss, debris and thatch.
- Spike the lawn to improve drainage and air circulation.
- Overseed if necessary.
- Apply a top-dressing to improve soil structure and drainage.
- Stop mowing when temperatures regularly drop below 10°C.
- Repair or cut new edges.



Rake out moss, debris
and thatch

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