

LAWN REPAIR HOW-TO

Bald spots, ruts, holes, and thin patches all can cause headaches for those of us who appreciate a good-looking lawn. If you notice any of these issues, early intervention at the proper time of year is important to minimize damage and get your lawn looking greener than ever.

The best time to repair a lawn for successful germination is from the last spring frost until June 15th, and from September 1st until October 15th. Seeding during the summer months is not recommended due to heat and lack of naturally occurring water (rain).

With over 50 years experience beautifying outdoor spaces, we've seen it all when it comes to lawns. Our experience has taught us some valuable lessons that we want to share with you. We'll start with a few general tips, then offer more specific advice to address issues you may be facing.

General Lawn Repair Tips

- Determine the cause before you treat. Pests, fungi, pets and other problems create unsightly spots in your lawn. If you repair the spot but ignore the issue, you'll have to come back and repair it again.
- Timing is everything. This means for warm-season grasses you'll want to aim for late spring, and for cool-season grasses you'll want to do your repairs in early fall. If you just have a small area you need to repair, mid to late spring will get the job done.
- Anytime you seed, the key is to have excellent contact between the seed and the soil. This means you'll need to rake away any leaves or other debris. Make sure the seed is staying moist, without overwatering and creating puddling that can reduce your seed-to-soil contact.
- Water seed twice a day until you see it sprout. Once you see the new grass, reduce to once a day.



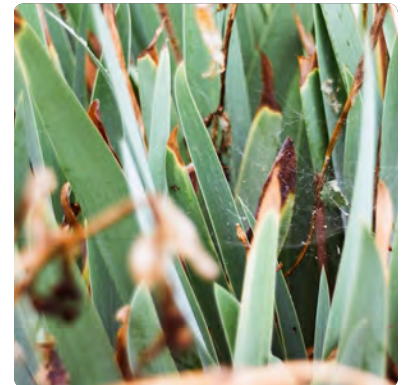
Repairing holes & low spots

For areas of your lawn with holes smaller than ½ inch, you'll want to do some **top-dressing**. For larger holes, you'll want to cut out a square section around the damaged grass. Loosen the dirt in this section, then add your compost or topsoil to bring it a little above the rest of the area. Add your grass seed and then a light layer of soil or straw to protect it from the birds.



Repairing thin or bald spots

To repair thin areas or bald spots, you'll want to overseed. Begin by raking away anything that may minimize contact between your grass seed and soil. Loosen the dirt, mix in a quick release fertilizer, lightly water the soil and then add your seed. Water once again, and then begin your twice a day regimen until you see sprouting.



Lawn repair becomes easier as you accumulate knowledge and experience. However, if you'd prefer to leave your lawn maintenance to the experts, the experienced team at Hively is just a phone call away.

*Don't forget, we also offer **proactive maintenance plans**, including our TurfCare program that focuses on keeping your lawn healthy and vibrant.*



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