

# Seeding Bare Spots

Lawns often have areas of thin grass or bare spot while the rest of the lawn is in good condition. Usually, reseeding can easily repair these areas. Don't waste your time and money by merely scattering seed over the spots - soil should be prepared properly.

- \* Mow the existing lawn. Newly germinated seed needs ample sunlight to reach maturity. Also, you should not mow the seeded area for 4 to 6 weeks, so the surrounding grass will grow too high during this period if not mowed now.
- \* Check the soil of the bare spot by digging it with a trowel. If the soil is light and crumbly, loosen the surface about 1/2 inch deep with a rake, being careful not to pull up the surrounding grass. If the soil is hard and compacted, use a shovel to loosen the soil 4 to 6 inches.
- \* Remove debris and dead grass, leaving the soil completely exposed. Level areas where excess water collects.
- \* Thoroughly mix 1 inch of organic material, such as Bumper Crop, Leaf Gro, or compost, into the soil. Also work a starter fertilizer into the soil at this time, following the manufacturer's recommendation.
- \* Select the proper seed for the area. Try to match the existing turf unless you made a mistake with the seed selection initially. Spread the seed so that there are approximately 6 to 10 seeds per square inch.
- \* Rake the area lightly so that the seed is worked 1/8 to 1/4 inches into the soil, or cover lightly with a sprinkling of Bumper Crop, Leaf Gro, or other organic material. Gently tamp the soil until it is level with the surrounding soil.
- \* Watering is critical. Keep the seedbed constantly moist to start germination, watering lightly in the morning and evening. As the grass matures, reduce the frequency of watering, but increase the duration. This encourages deeper roots. Continue to water until the grass has reached maturity, and then follow your normal watering schedule.
- \* You can begin mowing when the seedlings reach a height of approximately 3 inches high. Don't mow when the soil is wet, and be sure your mower blades are sharp.



Johnson's carries premium grass seed, organic amendments, and the tools you need to take care of your lawn.

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