

Gardening Can Be Fun With Proper Work Tools

The trees are budding and the wind smells like Spring!

It's time to take a look in the garage and see what new garden tools you'll need to get the yard in shape before summer.

The right tools for each garden job will save you countless hours, blisters and backache in a season. Probably the first task to confront you will be that of cleaning up the winter's accumulation of dead leaves and debris. For this you'll need a good lawn rake. Choose one with springy teeth that will not dig up tender blades of grass.

If you do not have a leaf-burner, now's the time to get one. You'll need it for disposing of garden waste all summer and for burning leaves in the fall.

Your lawn will probably need attention next. If you've planted a new lawn you'll want to keep it wet until the new grass is well rooted.

Start with a garden hose long enough to reach every corner of your yard. With this you should have a fog nozzle or mist spray to keep your lawn moist without washing the new seeds away.

If your lawn is well established, you may prefer a rotary sprinkler that makes a pretty pattern of water as it whirls.

Your lawns, shrubs and flower beds will need fertilizer or plant food to get off to a good growing start — but not too much! To assure even distribution of fertilizers, provide yourself with a sturdy, adjustable spreader.

Your lawn mower will likely get more use than any other piece of garden equipment. For this reason alone it should be your most careful investment.

If you dread mowing the lawn, you may be wise to invest in a power mower. This makes the job not only easy, but actually fun!

Whichever you prefer — reel-type or rotary mower — you'll find one to suit your needs and your budget.

Check your inventory of the following tools for use in your vegetable plot and flower beds: a sharp spade and fork for deep digging and edging; a garden rake for mixing mulch and fertilizer into the topsoil; a hoe to keep the weeds down, and a good assortment of hand tools.

You might add spray equipment for the control of pests and fungus. Relatively inexpensive, there's sure to be one to fit your pocketbook.

This year start the job right — with the tools that will make light work of garden chores.

WHY GOOD LIGHT

The three main purposes of adequate fixture lighting, according to the American Home Lighting Institute, are: first, to cast general room illumination; second, to provide light for certain visual tasks such as cooking, reading, sewing; and third, to provide accent light to enhance interior decor.

BUDGET PRICED

Fixtures can be purchased in any price range and for every purpose. The American Home Lighting Institute reports that an efficient fixture can be purchased in the \$15 to \$30 price range.

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Modernize Antiquated Heating Systems

Though spring is in the air and most everybody's thoughts turn to gardening, painting and other typical spring fix-up chores, this is the proper time to give serious thought to your heating problems ahead.

More than 20 million homes in the United States are 25 years or older, with most of them still dependent upon the heating equipment that was installed when the house was built.

If an antiquated heating system is your problem, it'll pay you to give serious consideration to modernization along this line.

A hot weather heating system may be the solution to your problem — especially for its economy and heat-carrying potential.

For the main unit, a compact

gas-fired unit can be installed; streamlined, small-space designs expand the use of the basement installation; a closet or alcove also can easily accommodate the newer units.

To eliminate unsightly radiators and awkwardly-placed vents, piping can be laid out in a simple series loop extending from the boiler unit to the outside walls of the house.

For forced circulation, hot-water heating, a baseboard panel installation can replace the conventional wood types.

Baseboard heating, as described, or a similar installation is sanitary, healthful and help distribute the heat most evenly about the house.

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