



Aeration benefits your lawn in several ways. First: it allows oxygen, water, and nutrients to penetrate further into the soil, encouraging deeper root growth. Second: it reduces soil compaction. The result can be a healthier and more vigorous lawn. A power aerator is the fastest and most efficient way to aerate your lawn. Slightly overlap each pass until the entire lawn has been aerated.

Hollow tining lifts out small cores of grass and soil. This creates large air pockets in the lawn.

For smaller areas, a similar effect can be achieved by using a garden fork. Step down firmly on the garden fork, and wiggle the handle back and forth to open up the soil and let in more air.

After you finish aerating your lawn, any cores left lying on the grass can be taken care of easily. Drag a piece of chain-link fencing around your lawn behind a mower or by hand. The fencing will break up the cores into very small pieces. Another approach is to simply set the blade on your mower a little lower than normal, then mow over the cores. This 'topdressing' can help to reduce thatch layers.