



XP Lawn Aerator

Eight gangs of tempered steel “knives.” These knives cut into the soil beneath your lawn to let water and nutrients penetrate easily, and to encourage deep drought-resistant root growth.

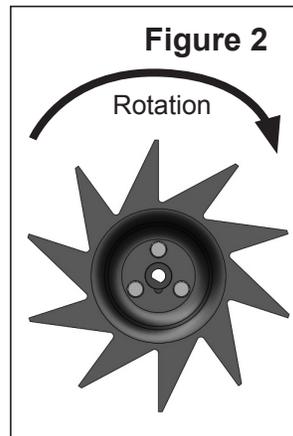
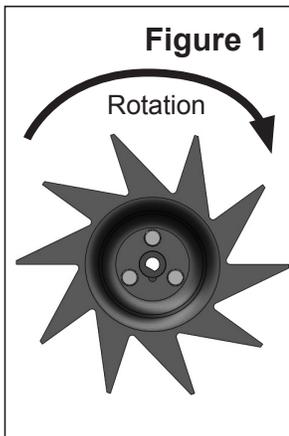


HOW TO MOUNT

Mount the aerator tines so the angled face of the blade impacts with the earth (**Figure 1**). This position gives you aeration 1 to 2 inches deep.

If you mount the tines so the straight face impacts with the earth, you’ll work deeper (**Figure 2**). Roughly 2-1/2 to 3-1/2 inches deep. This is all right, but when learning how to use the aerator blades, it is best to work shallow, not deep, which is why we suggest to first use the angle face setting.

You will notice that if you let the machine run forward it will tear out dome sized patches of lawn and soil. While this does give you some aeration, you get the best results by walking backwards and pulling the machine as you go.



Regardless of the method you use ... Please be aware that aerating with any machine will make your lawn somewhat unsightly for about 10 days ... The improvements that you’ll realize in terms of lawn vigor and color make regular aeration more than worth it. Remember, however, that aeration is a radical procedure and your lawn will look unattractive for a few days ... Most of the unsightly aspects of aeration can be eliminated immediately by raking off your loose surface earth and irrigating immediately after raking.

The aerator cuts 8 hairline slits roughly 2-1/2 inches apart and 1-1/2 inches deep. You will get some loose earth between the slits. If your lawn needs radical restoration, aerate north to south and then aerate east to west, giving you a checker board pattern of slits. Leave the earth where it is until you’ve sown fresh grass seed and fertilizer along the slits then rake off the loose earth and you’ll get fresh bands of healthy green grass which in 3 to 5 weeks will spread over your entire lawn, giving you a rich carpet of healthy green growth.

We recommend that you aerate three times a year, early spring, mid-summer and early fall only ... Aeration should always follow a thorough program of dethatching. Used this way, you will have a lawn that will turn your neighbors green with envy.

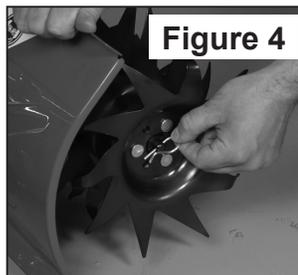
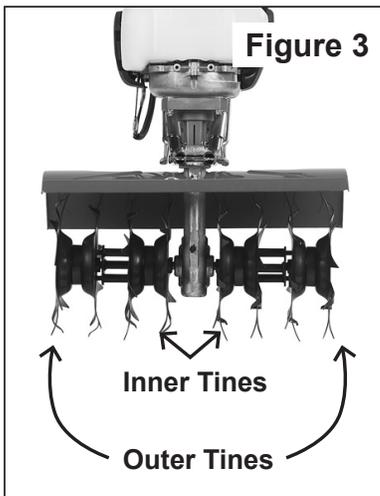
OPERATING SUGGESTIONS

Before doing your lawn, a brief review of Basic Lawn Management is in order. You aerate to give your grass roots a chance to breathe ... You also aerate to allow irrigation to seep below the soil’s hard crust so your roots get proper hydration ... Many people aerate without reseeding or fertilizing ... This is perfectly acceptable with a good healthy lawn; however, reseeding and fertilizing after aerating does give you healthy new growth which is essential to the maintenance of a good lawn.

INSTALLATION

1. First, you will need to understand that your Mantis® XP has an inner and outer set of tines on each side of the tiller as shown in **Figure 3**.
2. Make sure the tiller is turned off.
3. Remove the retaining pins from the outer set of tines (**Figure 4**) and remove the outer tines.
4. Only after you have removed the outer set of tines, remove the retaining pins from the inner tines. Remove the inner tines from the transmission axle. (**Figure 5**)
5. Place one set of inner aerator tines onto the left side

- axle of the transmission. Install the tine retaining pin. Repeat for the other side.
6. Place one set of outer aerator tines onto the left side axle of the inner aerator tines. The “D” shaped hole of the tine hub should be to the outside. Insert the tine retaining pin. Repeat for the other side. Make sure to match the orientation of the outer aerator tines with the orientation of the inner tines.



WARNING

DO NOT reach your fingers and/or hand between the tine blades. DO NOT attempt to remove the inner set of tines until you have first removed the outer set of tines.

**Original Operating Instructions
Traduction des instructions originales
Übersetzung der originalen Bedienungsanleitung**