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Sharpening the Mower Blade

Today on Gardening in a Minute: sharpening the mower blade.

It may seem like a dull chore, but sharpening your mower's blade is actually one of the best things you can do for your lawn.

No matter what kind of mower you have, it works by cutting the grass with a blade. But when the cutting edge is dull it actually tears instead of slicing the grass. Dull blades damage grass, making it more vulnerable to disease, sun damage, and insects like chinch bugs.

How often your mower blade needs sharpening depends on the size of your lawn and how often you mow, but a general guideline is at least twice a year.

Rotary mower blades should not only be sharpened, but also balanced. Reel mower blades should be sharpened only by a professional mower repair service.

For more information about this and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

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