

# TIPS FOR STORING YOUR LAWN EQUIPMENT

As the days get shorter and the weather turns cold, it's time to start preparing your equipment to be stored for winter. If the right steps are taken, landscapers can avoid unnecessary damage on tools and machinery, while ensuring equipment is ready to go when the spring season arrives.



# FIND THE RIGHT STORAGE SPOT



Store lawn equipment indoors or sheltered from elements like water that can rust equipment. Garages are usually the sturdiest and most protected places to store equipment, but a shed or separate storage container can work too.

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# BLADE MAINTENANCE

1. Clean and grease blades on trimmers, pruners, or other bladed lawn equipment, and store properly away from corrosive elements. Cleaning blades will remove residual sap or bio matter leftover from yard work.  
**Warning: Any residue that freezes on blades will be difficult to remove in the spring.**
2. Oil equipment blades to avoid rust, which will add a layer of moisture protection to extend the life and quality of your blades.  
**Tip: Linseed oil is a good universal oil for blades but check the manufacturer's recommendation for a specific type of oil or grease that should be used.**
3. Sheath or wrap blades in a wax-sided cloth to preserve the oil and prevent rust.



# SMALL ENGINE MAINTENANCE

A person wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt is working on a chainsaw. The chainsaw's orange plastic housing is open, revealing the internal engine components, including a yellow air filter and a black carburetor. The person's hands are visible, one near the handle and the other near the engine. The background is a workshop setting with a metal workbench and various tools.

Drain all equipment of untreated gasoline — avoiding damage on the inner workings of your equipment. Follow the owner's manual and be sure to wipe down and clean everything before putting it into storage.

**Tip:** If you are storing a piece of equipment for a short period, less than two or three months, a stabilizer can be added without draining the gasoline. This slows the degradation of fuel but is only effective for 30 to 90 days.

A collection of garden tools is hanging on a white wire rack. The tools include several black metal pitchforks, a green-handled tool, a black-handled tool, and a large black shovel. The rack is mounted on a wall, and the tools are arranged in a neat, organized manner. The background is a light-colored wall with a grid pattern.

# ORGANIZATION

Consider the likely timeline of use. If you generally use your trimmers before you need to cut your lawn, you should store them closer to the front of your garage or storage shed. Elevate as many things as possible — maximizing space and preventing heavier equipment from leaning on and damaging smaller or more delicate tools.

**Tip:** shelves, peg boards, ceiling hooks and racks are relatively easy to find and install, and will keep your equipment off the floor.



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