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Grass roots: Keep your lawn and garden looking good with the right tools

Warmer temperatures and sunnier days mean one thing: yard work. If you've got access to a patch of grass or a garden that needs some post-winter help, equip yourself to make the hard work simpler.

- Mow a lawn as big as one-third of an acre on just one charge with Black & Decker's 36-volt 19-inch rechargeable mower. The battery can be removed for more convenient charging. \$399.99; find a retailer at www.blackanddecker.com.

- Trim your lawn faster with Black & Decker's 24 Volt Cordless String Trimmer and Edger. The trimmer has two modes: normal conserves battery life; and boost gives you extra power. \$149.99; find a retailer at www.blackanddecker.com.

- Tough yards need a tough seed: Scotts Turf Builder EZ Seed, which contains a protective growing material that lets new grass sprout almost anywhere. Available in Sun and Shade, Tall Fescue and Bermudagrass. \$14.44 for 3.75 pounds at Home Depot.

- Liquid Wrench keeps dirt from sticking to shovels, loosens spark plugs on chainsaws and unfreezes stuck garden hose nozzles. Prices range from \$2.22 to \$5.96 at www.gunk.com.

- Fifty-foot tangle-proof Orbit coil hose comes with a six-direction sprayer. \$19.99 online only at www.target.com.

- Lug around your garden gear with a Gorilla 2-in-1 utility cart, which can turn into a flatbed and carries up to 800 pounds. \$64.99 at Sears.

- Let the kids help with tools sized and designed for them. Dora the Explorer garden tools, \$3 each at <http://katzgardengloves.com>.

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