

- **News**
- **Landscaping Las Vegas**
- **landscape designers Las Vegas**
- **Landscaping Services in Las Vegas**
- **Las Vegas landscaping**
- **More**
 - landscape design Las Vegas xeriscape Las Vegas landscaping companies Las Vegas Las Vegas landscape contractors desert landscaping Las Vegas backyard landscaping Las Vegas front yard landscaping Las Vegas landscape installation Las Vegas landscape maintenance Las Vegas Landscaping Las Vegas Nevada Las Vegas garden design outdoor living Las Vegas patio design Las Vegas pool landscaping Las Vegas artificial grass Las Vegas pavers Las Vegas retaining walls Las Vegas irrigation systems Las Vegas landscape lighting Las Vegas Las Vegas landscape architecture landscape renovation Las Vegas residential landscaping Las Vegas commercial landscaping Las Vegas landscape services Las Vegas landscape construction Las Vegas landscape planning Las Vegas landscape features Las Vegas landscape elements Las Vegas landscape materials Las Vegas landscape plants Las Vegas drought tolerant landscaping Las Vegas sustainable landscaping Las Vegas eco-friendly landscaping Las Vegas low water landscaping Las Vegas rock landscaping Las Vegas gravel landscaping Las Vegas desert plants Las Vegas cactus garden Las Vegas succulent garden Las Vegas outdoor kitchen Las Vegas fire pit Las Vegas water features Las Vegas landscape edging Las Vegas landscape curbing Las Vegas landscape drainage Las Vegas landscape grading Las Vegas landscape soil Las Vegas landscape mulch Las Vegas landscape rocks Las Vegas landscape boulders Las Vegas landscape trees Las Vegas landscape shrubs Las Vegas landscape flowers Las Vegas landscape turf Las Vegas landscape lawn care Las Vegas landscape pest control Las Vegas landscape fertilization Las Vegas landscape trimming Las Vegas landscape pruning Las Vegas landscape clean up Las Vegas landscape debris removal Las Vegas landscape design ideas Las Vegas landscape inspiration Las Vegas landscape gallery Las Vegas landscape portfolio Las Vegas landscape estimates Las Vegas landscape quotes Las Vegas landscape pricing Las Vegas landscape cost Las Vegas landscape budget Las Vegas landscape project Las Vegas landscape development Las Vegas landscape improvement Las Vegas landscape enhancement Las Vegas landscape transformation Las

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Water features Las Vegas - SEO-friendly URLs

1. Google search trends
2. SEO-friendly URLs

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Water features Las Vegas - Google search trends

1. Google structured data
2. Content authority signals
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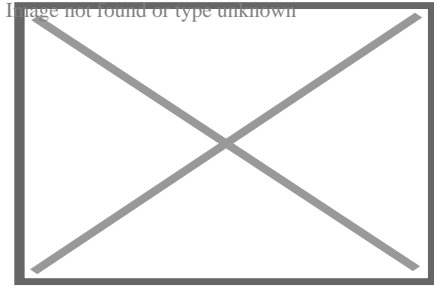
About swimming pool

For other uses, see [Swimming pool \(disambiguation\)](#).

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Backyard swimming pool



Olympic-size swimming pool and starting blocks at Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre used for the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, Australia

A **swimming pool**, **swimming bath**, **wading pool**, **paddling pool**, or simply **pool**, is a structure designed to hold water to enable **swimming** and associated activities. Pools can be built into the ground (in-ground pools) or built above ground (as a freestanding construction or as part of a building or other larger structure), and may be found as a feature aboard ships. In-ground pools are most commonly constructed from materials such as **concrete**, natural stone, metal, plastic, composite or **fiberglass**, and may follow a standardized size, the largest of which is the **Olympic-size swimming pool**, or be of a custom shape.

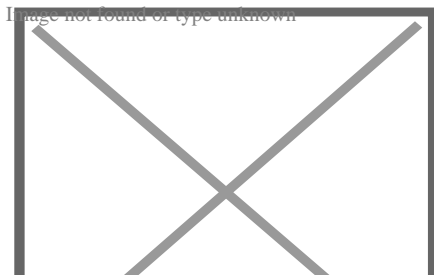
Many **health clubs**, **fitness centers**, and private clubs have pools for their members, often used for exercise. In much of the world, local governments provide publicly-run pools for their citizens. Many of these are outdoors; indoor pools are typically part of a **leisure centre**. Many hotels have a pool for the use of their guests. Pools as a feature in hotels are more common in tourist areas or near **convention centers**. Many universities and other institutional communities provide pools for their members., often as part of an institution-specific athletic or recreational complex. Apartment complexes and residential subdivisions may provide a pool for the use of their residents. Private residences, particularly in areas with warm climates, may have their own pools.

Educational facilities such as high schools and universities often have pools for physical education classes, recreational activities, leisure, and competitive athletics such as swimming teams. **Hot tubs** and **spas** are small heated pools used for **relaxation** or **hydrotherapy**. Specialised pools are also used for **diving**, water sports, and **physical therapy**, as well as for training of **lifeguards** and **astronauts**. Swimming pools most commonly use chlorinated water, or salt water, and may be heated or unheated.

History

[[edit](#)]

See also: **History of water supply and sanitation**



Pre-modern

[\[edit\]](#)

The "[Great Bath](#)" at the site of [Mohenjo-Daro](#) in modern-day Pakistan was most likely the first swimming pool, dug during the 3rd millennium BC. This pool is 12 by 7 metres (39 by 23 feet), is lined with bricks, and was covered with a tar-based sealant. [\[1\]](#)

[Ancient Greeks](#) and [Romans](#) built artificial pools for athletic training in the [palaestras](#), for nautical games and for military exercises. Roman emperors had private swimming pools in which fish were also kept, hence one of the [Latin](#) words for a pool was *piscina*. The first heated swimming pool was built by [Gaius Maecenas](#) in [his gardens](#) on the [Esquiline Hill](#) of [Rome](#), likely sometime between 38 and 8 BC. [\[2\]](#) Gaius Maecenas was a wealthy imperial advisor to [Augustus](#) and considered one of the first patrons of arts. [\[3\]](#)

Ancient [Sinhalese](#) built a pair of pools called "[Kuttam Pokuna](#)" in the kingdom of [Anuradhapura](#), Sri Lanka, in the 6th century AD. They were decorated with flights of steps, punkalas or pots of abundance, and scroll design. [\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)

19th and 20th centuries

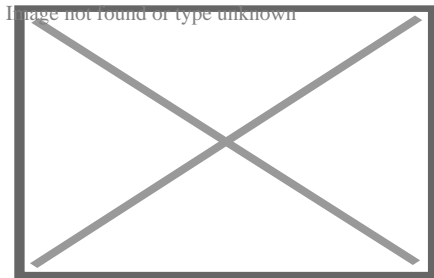
[\[edit\]](#)

Swimming pools became popular in Britain in the mid-19th century. As early as 1837, six indoor pools with diving boards existed in London, England. [\[6\]](#) The Maidstone Swimming Club in [Maidstone](#), [Kent](#) is believed to be the oldest surviving swimming club in Britain. It was formed in 1844, in response to concerns over drownings in the [River Medway](#), especially since would-be rescuers would often drown because they themselves could not swim to safety. The club used to swim in the River Medway, and would hold races, diving competitions and [water polo](#) matches. *The South East Gazette* July 1844 reported an aquatic breakfast party: coffee and biscuits were served on a floating raft in the river. The coffee was kept hot over a fire; club members had to tread water and drink coffee at the same time. The last swimmers managed to overturn the raft, to the amusement of 150 spectators. [\[7\]](#)

The [Amateur Swimming Association](#) was founded in 1869 in England, ^{[\[citation needed\]](#)} and the Oxford Swimming Club in 1909. [\[8\]](#) The presence of indoor baths in the cobbled area of [Merton Street](#) might have persuaded the less hardy of the aquatic brigade to join. So, bathers

gradually became swimmers, and bathing pools became swimming pools.^[*citation needed*] In 1939, **Oxford** created its first major public indoor pool at Temple Cowley.

The modern **Olympic Games** started in 1896 and included swimming races, after which the popularity of swimming pools began to spread. In the US, the **Racquet Club of Philadelphia** clubhouse (1907) boasts one of the world's first modern above-ground swimming pools. The first swimming pool to go to sea on an ocean liner was installed on the **White Star Line's Adriatic** in 1906.^[9] The oldest known public swimming pool in the U.S., Underwood Pool, is located in **Belmont, Massachusetts**.^[10]



The **Yrjönkatu Swimming Hall**, the oldest swimming hall in Finland, photographed on its opening day on 4 June 1928 in **Kamppi, Helsinki**^[11]

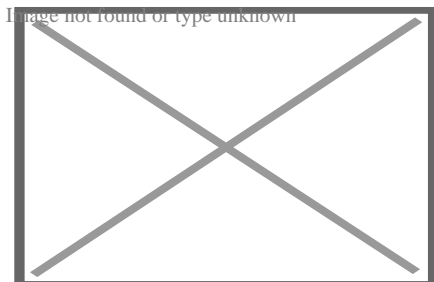
Interest in competitive swimming grew following **World War I**. Standards improved and training became essential. Home swimming pools became popular in the United States after **World War II** and the publicity given to swimming sports by Hollywood films such as **Esther Williams' Million Dollar Mermaid** made a home pool a desirable status symbol. More than 50 years later, the home or residential swimming pool is a common sight. Some small nations enjoy a thriving swimming pool industry (e.g., New Zealand pop. 4,116,900 – holds the record in pools per capita with 65,000 home swimming pools and 125,000 spa pools).^[12]

A two-storey, white concrete swimming pool building composed of horizontal cubic volumes built in 1959 at the **Royal Roads Military College** is on the **Canadian Register of Historic Places**.^[13]

World records

[*edit*]

Further information: **List of largest swimming pools**



Moskva Pool, at one time the largest swimming pool in the world (1980)

According to the **Guinness World Records**, the largest swimming pool in the world is **San Alfonso del Mar** Seawater pool in **Algarrobo, Chile**. It is 1,013 m (3,323 ft) long and has an area of 8 ha (20 acres). At its deepest, it is 3.5 m (11 ft) deep. ^[14] It was completed in December 2006.^[15]

The largest indoor **wave pool** in the world is at **DreamWorks Water Park** within the **American Dream** shopping and entertainment complex at the **Meadowlands Sports Complex** in **East Rutherford, New Jersey**, United States, and the largest indoor pool in North America is at the **Neutral Buoyancy Lab** in the **Sonny Carter Training Facility** at **NASA JSC** in Houston.^{[16][17]}

In 2021, **Deep Dive Dubai**, located in Dubai, UAE, was certified by the **Guinness Book of World Records** as the world's deepest swimming pool reaching 60 metres (200 ft). ^{[18][19]} The **Y-40** swimming pool at the **Hotel Terme Millepini** in **Padua**, Italy, previously held the record, 42.15 m (138.3 ft), from 2014 until 2021.^[20]

The **Fleishhacker Pool** in San Francisco was the largest heated outdoor swimming pool in the United States. Opened on 23 April 1925, it measured 1,000 by 150 ft (300 by 50 m) and was so large that the lifeguards required **kayaks** for patrol. It was closed in 1971 due to low patronage.^[21]

In Europe, the largest swimming pool opened in 1934 in **Elbląg** (Poland), providing a water area of 33,500 square metres (361,000 sq ft).^[22]

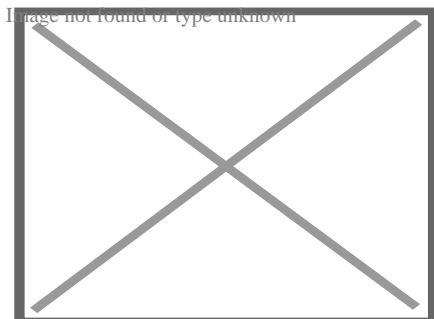
One of the largest swimming pools ever built was reputedly created in **Moscow** after the **Palace of Soviets** remained uncompleted. The foundations of the palace were converted into the **Moskva Pool** open-air swimming pool after the process of **de-Stalinisation**.^[23] However, after the fall of **communism**, **Christ the Saviour Cathedral** was re-built on the site between 1995 and 2000; the cathedral had originally been located there.^[*citation needed*]

The highest swimming pool is believed to be in **Yangbajain** (Tibet, China). This resort is located at 4,200 m (13,800 ft) AMSL and has two indoor swimming pools and one outdoor swimming pool, all filled with water from **hot springs**.^[24]

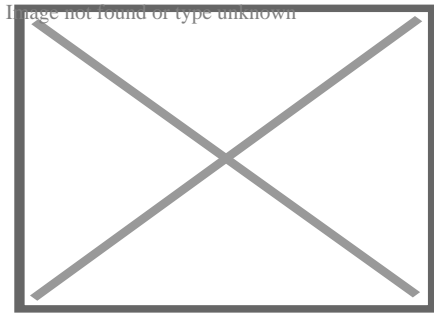
Dimensions

[[]**edit**[]]

Further information: § **Competition pools**



Cairns Lagoon, a public swimming pool in Australia



Rooftop pool in **Manhattan**

Length: Most pools in the world are measured in metres, but in the United States pools are often measured in feet and yards. In the UK most pools are calibrated in metres, but older pools measured in yards still exist. In the US, pools tend to either be 25 yards (**SCY**-short course yards), 25 metres (**SCM**-short course metres) or 50 metres (**LCM** - long course meters). US high schools and the **NCAA** conduct short course (25 yards) competition. There are also many pools 33+1⁄3 m long, so that 3 lengths = 100 m. This pool dimension is commonly used to accommodate water polo. *[citation needed]*

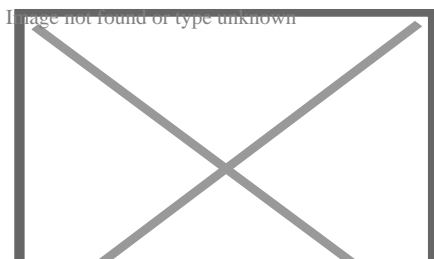
USA Swimming (USA-S) swims in both metric and non-metric pools. However, the international standard is metres, and world records are only recognized when swum in 50 m pools (or 25 m for short course) but 25-yard pools are very common in the US. In general, the shorter the pool, the faster the time for the same distance, since the swimmer gains speed from pushing off the wall after each turn at the end of the pool.

Width: The width of the pool depends on the number of swimming lanes and the width of each individual lane. In an **Olympic swimming pool** each lane is 2.5 meters wide *[25]* and contains 10 lanes, thus making the pool 25 meters wide.

Depth: The depth of a swimming pool depends on the purpose of the pool, and whether it is open to the public or strictly for private use. If it is a private casual, relaxing pool, it may go from 1.0 to 2.0 m (3.3 to 6.6 ft) deep. If it is a public pool designed for diving, it may slope from 3.0 to 5.5 m (10 to 18 ft) in the deep end. A children's play pool may be from 0.3 to 1.2 m (1 to 4 ft) deep. Most public pools have differing depths to accommodate different swimmer requirements. In many jurisdictions, it is a requirement to show the water depth with clearly marked depths affixed to the pool walls, *[26][27]* although this may not be the case for private pools in some jurisdictions. *[28]*

Types

[edit]

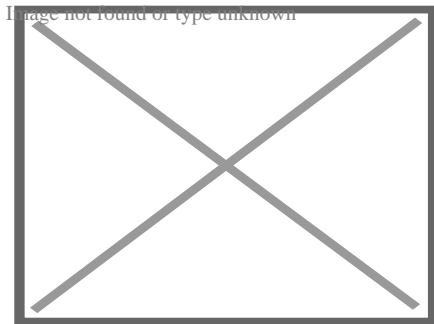


A swimming pool on the deck of the *Celebrity Silhouette*

Pools can be either indoors or outdoors. They can be of any size and shape, and inground or above ground. Most pools are permanent fixtures, while others are temporary, collapsible structures.

Private pools

[[edit](#)]



A collapsible above-ground swimming pool

Private pools are usually smaller than public pools, on average 3.7 m × 7.3 m (12 ft × 24 ft) to 6.1 m × 12.2 m (20 ft × 40 ft) whereas public pools usually start at 20 m (66 ft). [[citation needed](#)] Home pools can be permanently built-in, or be assembled above ground and disassembled after summer. Privately owned outdoor pools in backyards or gardens started to proliferate in the 1950s in regions with warm summer climates, particularly in the United States with [desegregation](#).^[29] A *plunge pool* is a smaller, permanently installed swimming pool, with a maximum size of approximately 3 m × 6 m (10 ft × 20 ft).^{[30][31][32]}

Construction methods for private pools vary greatly. The main types of in-ground pools are gunite [shotcrete](#), concrete, [vinyl](#)-lined, and one-piece fiberglass shells.

Many countries now have strict [pool fencing](#) requirements for private swimming pools, which require pool areas to be isolated so that unauthorized children younger than six years cannot enter. Many countries require a similar level of protection for the children residing in or visiting the house, although many pool owners prefer the visual aspect of the pool in close proximity to their living areas, and will not provide this level of protection. There is no consensus between states or countries on the requirements to fence private swimming pools, and in many places they are not required at all, particularly in rural settings.^[33]

Children's pools

[[edit](#)]

"Children's pool" redirects here. For the beach in La Jolla, San Diego, see [Children's Pool Beach](#).

Inexpensive temporary [polyvinyl chloride](#) pools can be bought in supermarkets and taken down after summer. They are used mostly outdoors in yards, are typically shallow, and often their sides are inflated with air to stay rigid. When finished, the water and air can be let out and this type of pool can be folded up for convenient storage. They are regarded in the swimming pool industry as "splasher" pools intended for cooling off and amusing toddlers and children, not for swimming, hence the alternate name of "kiddie" pools. ^{[*[citation needed](#)*]}

Toys are available for children and other people to play with in pool water. They are often blown up with air so they are soft but still reasonably rugged, and can float in water.

[A black Labrador Retriever bathing in a kiddie pool](#)

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A black [Labrador Retriever](#)
bathing in a kiddie pool
[Children playing in an inflatable pool](#)

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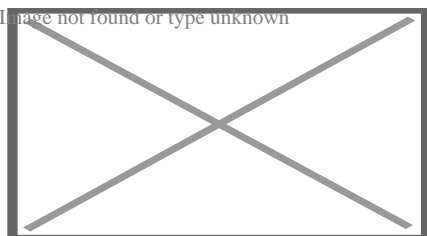
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Children playing in an
inflatable pool

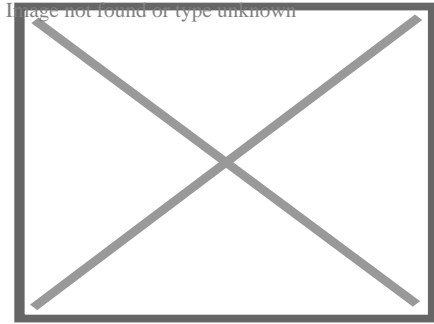
Public pools

[[edit](#)]

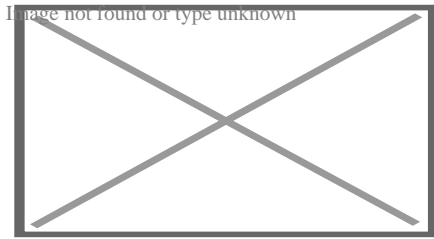
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A hotel swimming pool in Miami



A spa at Hotel Fra Mare in Estonia

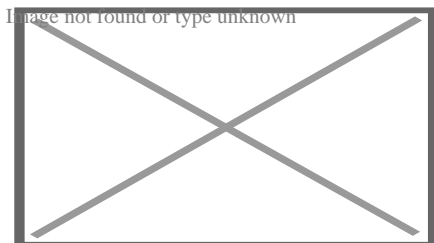


Tooting Bec Lido, in South London

Public pools are often part of a larger **leisure center** or recreational complex. These centres often have more than one pool, such as an indoor heated pool, an outdoor (**chlorinated**, **saltwater** or **ozonated**) pool which may be heated or unheated, a shallower children's pool, and a paddling pool for toddlers and infants. There may also be a **sauna** and one or more **hot tubs** or **spa** pools ("jacuzzis").

Many upscale hotels and holiday resorts have a swimming pool for use by their guests. If a pool is in a separate building, the building may be called a **natatorium**. The building may sometimes also have facilities for related activities, such as a diving tank. Larger pools sometimes have a **diving board** affixed at one edge above the water.

Many public swimming pools are **rectangles** 25 m or 50 m long, but they can be any size and shape. There are also elaborate pools with **artificial waterfalls**, fountains, **splash pads**, wave machines, varying depths of water, bridges, and island bars.



Children's pool at the SaiGaau Swimming Pool

Some swimming facilities have **lockers** for clothing and other belongings. The lockers can require a coin to be inserted in a slot, either as deposit or payment. There are usually

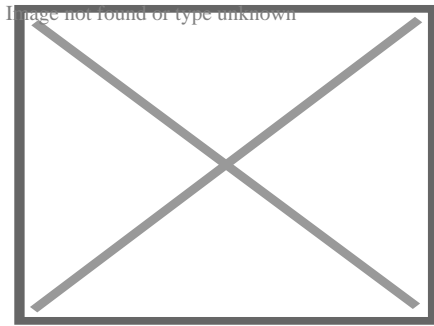
showers – sometimes mandatory – before and/or after swimming. There are often also lifeguards to ensure the safety of users.

Wading or paddling pools are shallow bodies of water intended for use by small children, usually in parks. Concrete wading pools come in many shapes, traditionally rectangle, square or circle. Some are filled and drained daily due to lack of a filter system. Staff chlorinate the water to ensure health and safety standards. ^[*citation needed*]

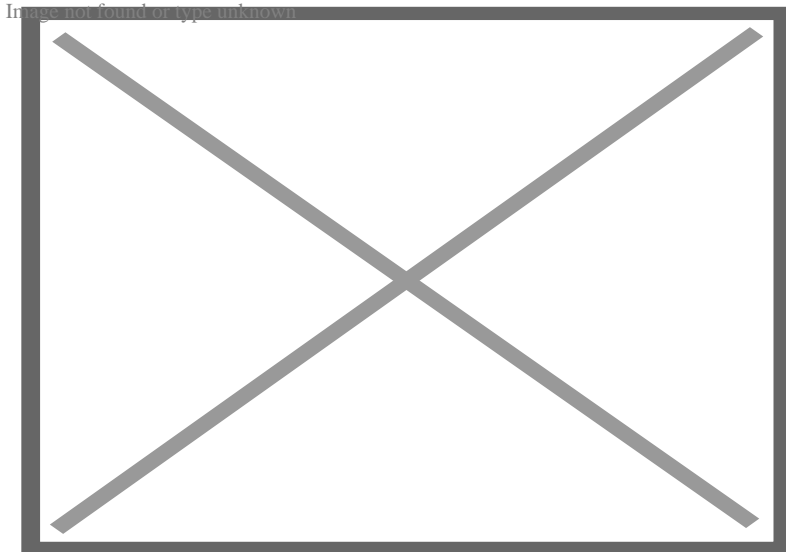
Competition pools

[*edit*]

See: *#Dimensions* (above) and *Swimming (sport)#Competition pools*



Racing pool at the *University of Minnesota*



A simplified diagram of the *FINA* long course swimming pool standard, used at the World Championships and *Summer Olympics*

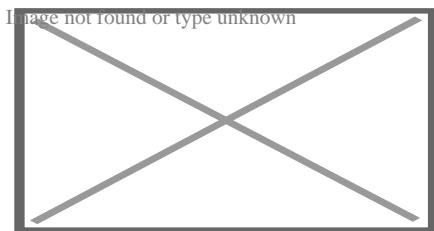
The *Fédération Internationale de la Natation* (FINA, International Swimming Federation) sets standards for competition pools: 25 or 50 m (82 or 164 ft) long and at least 1.35 m (4.4 ft)

deep. Competition pools are generally indoors and heated to enable their use all year round, and to more easily comply with the regulations regarding temperature, lighting, and automatic officiating equipment.

An **Olympic-size swimming pool** (first used at the **1924 Olympics**) is a pool that meets FINA's additional standards for the Olympic Games and for world championship events. It must be 50 by 25 m (164 by 82 ft) wide, divided into eight lanes of 2.5 m (8.2 ft) each, plus two areas of 2.5 m (8.2 ft) at each side of the pool. Depth must be at least 2 m (6.6 ft). **[34]**

The water must be kept at 25–28 °C (77–82 °F) and the lighting level at greater than 1500 **lux**. There are also regulations for color of lane rope, positioning of **backstroke flags** (5 metres from each wall), and so on. **[34]** Pools claimed to be "Olympic pools" do not always meet these regulations, as FINA cannot police use of the term. **Touchpads** are mounted on both walls for long course meets and each end for short course.

A pool may be referred to as fast or slow, depending on its physical layout. **[35]** Some design considerations allow the reduction of swimming **resistance** making the pool faster: namely, proper pool depth, elimination of currents, increased lane width, energy absorbing racing lane lines and gutters, and the use of other innovative hydraulic, acoustic and illumination designs.



Pool tiles' longer rectangular edges may be parallel to the pool's long sides to help swimmers orient themselves.

Exercise pools

[edit]

In the last two decades, a new style of pool has gained popularity. These consist of a small vessel (usually about 2.5 × 5 m) in which the swimmer swims in place, either against the push of an artificially generated water current or against the pull of restraining devices. These pools have several names, such as *swim spas*, **swimming machines**, or *swim systems*. They are all examples of different modes of **resistance swimming**.

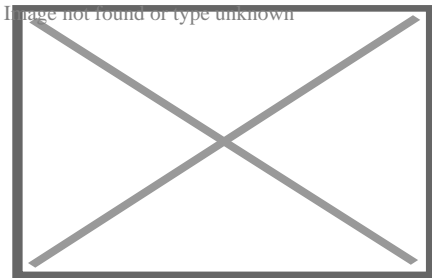
Hot tubs and spa pools

[[edit](#)]

Further information: [Hot tub](#)



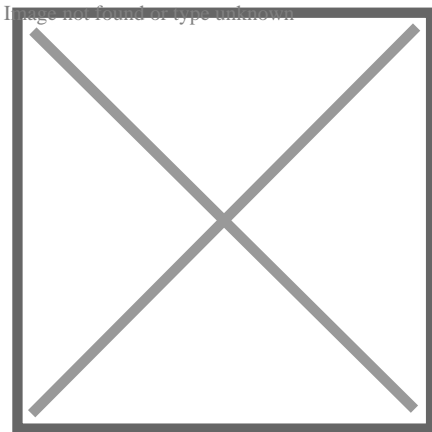
This section **does not cite any sources**. Please help [improve this section](#) by adding [citations to reliable sources](#). Unsourced material may be challenged and [removed](#). (January 2018) ([Learn how and when to remove this message](#))



A home spa

Hot tubs and spa pools are common heated pools used for relaxation and sometimes for therapy. Commercial spas are common in the swimming pool area or sauna area of a [health club](#) or fitness center, in men's clubs, women's clubs, motels and exclusive five-star hotel suites. Spa clubs may have very large pools, some segmented into increasing temperatures. In Japan, men's clubs with many spas of different size and temperature are common.

Commercial spas are generally made of concrete, with a [mosaic](#) tiled interior. More recently^{[when?](#)} with the innovation of the pre-form composite method where mosaic tiles are bonded to the shell this enables commercial spas to be completely factory manufactured to specification and delivered in one piece. Hot tubs are typically made somewhat like a [wine barrel](#) with straight sides, from wood such as [Californian redwood](#) held in place by metal hoops. Immersion of the head is not recommended in spas or hot tubs due to a potential risk of underwater entrapment from the pump suction forces. However, commercial installations in many countries must comply with various safety standards which reduce this risk considerably.



A boy relaxing in a hot tub

Home spas are a worldwide retail item in western countries since the 1980s, and are sold in dedicated spa stores, pool shops, [department stores](#), the Internet, and catalog sales books.

They are almost always made from heat-extruded **acrylic** sheet **Perspex**, often colored in **marble** look-alike patterns. They rarely exceed 6 m² (65 sq ft) and are typically 1 m (3 ft 3 in) deep, restricted by the availability of the raw sheet sizes (typically manufactured in Japan). There is often a mid-depth seating or lounging system, and contoured lounge style reclining seats are common.

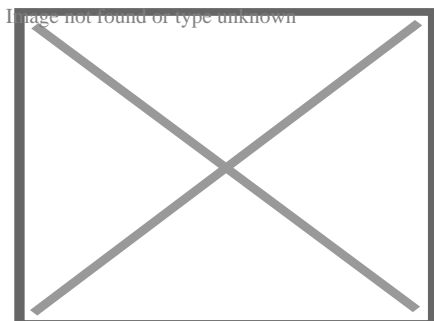
Upmarket spas often include a drinks tray, lights, **LCD** flat-screen TV sets and other features that make the pool a recreation center. Due to their family-oriented nature, home spas are normally operated from 36 to 39 °C (97 to 102 °F). Many pools are incorporated in a **redwood** or simulated wood surround, and are termed "portable" as they may be placed on a **patio** rather than sunken into a permanent location. Some portable spas are shallow and narrow enough to fit sideways through a standard door and be used inside a room. Low power electric immersion heaters are common with home spas.

Whirlpool tubs first became popular in the U.S. during the 1960s and 1970s. A spa is also called a "jacuzzi" there, as the word became a generic after-plumbing component manufacturer; **Jacuzzi** introduced the "spa whirlpool" in 1968. Air bubbles may be introduced into the **nozzles** via an air-bleed **venturi pump** that combines cooler air with the incoming heated water to cool the pool if the temperature rises uncomfortably high. Some spas have a constant stream of bubbles fed via the seating area of the pool, or a footwell area. This is more common as a temperature control device where the heated water comes from a natural (uncontrolled heat) **geothermal** source, rather than artificially heated.

Water temperature is usually very warm to hot – 38 to 42 °C (100 to 108 °F) – so bathers usually stay in for only 20 to 30 minutes. **Bromine** or **mineral sanitizers** are often recommended as sanitizers for spas because **chlorine** dissipates at a high temperature, thereby heightening its strong chemical smell. **Ozone** is an effective bactericide and is commonly included in the circulation system with cartridge filtration, but not with sand media filtration due to clogging problems with turbid body fats.

Ocean pools

[**edit**]



An ocean pool at **Coogee** in Sydney, Australia

In the early 20th century, especially in Australia, **ocean pools** were built, typically on headlands by enclosing part of the rock shelf, with water circulated through the pools by flooding from tidal tanks or by regular flooding over the side of the pools at high tide. This continued a pre-European tradition of bathing in rockpools with many of the current sites being expanded from sites used by **Aboriginal Australians** or early European settlers. Bathing in these pools provided security against both rough surf and sea life. There were often separate pools for women and men, or the pool was open to the sexes at different times with a break for bathers to climb in without fear of observation by the other sex. [36] These were the forerunners of modern "Olympic" pools. A variation was the later development of sea- or harbour-side pools that circulated sea water using pumps. A pool of this type was the training ground for Australian Olympian **Dawn Fraser**.

There are currently about 100 ocean baths in **New South Wales**, which can range from small pools roughly 25 metres long and "Olympic Sized" (50m) to the very large, such as the 50 × 100 m baths in **Newcastle**. While most are free, a number charge fees, such as the **Bondi Icebergs Club** pool at **Bondi Beach**. Despite the development of chlorinated and heated pools, ocean baths remain a popular form of recreation in New South Wales.

A semi-natural ocean pool exists on the central coast of New South Wales; it is called The **Bogey Hole**.

Infinity pools

[edit]

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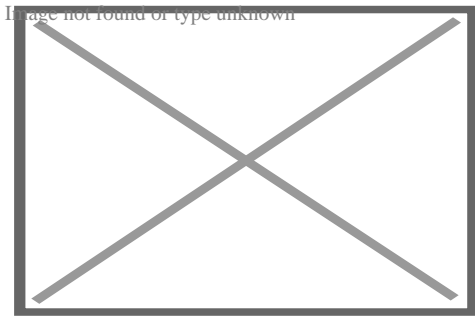
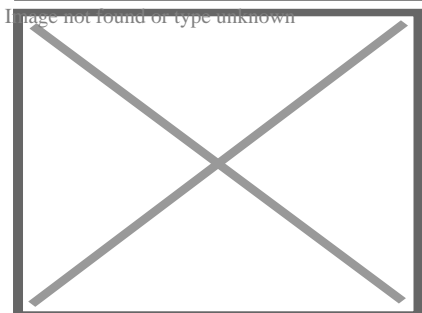


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The **Marina Bay Sands** SkyPark Infinity Pool in **Singapore**, viewed from the poolside (left) and near the edge (right)

An **infinity pool** (also named *negative edge* or *vanishing edge pool*) is a swimming pool which produces a visual effect of water extending to the horizon, vanishing, or extending to "infinity". Often, the water appears to fall into an ocean, lake, bay, or other similar body of water. The illusion is most effective whenever there is a significant change in elevation, though having a natural body of water on the horizon is not a limiting factor. ^[***citation needed***]

Natural pools and ponds

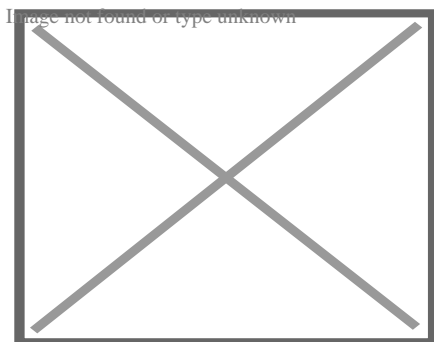
^[***edit***]

Natural pools were developed in central and western Europe in the early and mid-1980s by designers and landscape architects with environmental concerns. They have recently been growing in popularity as an alternative to traditional swimming pools. ^{[37][38]} Natural pools are constructed bodies of water in which no chemicals or devices that disinfect or sterilize water are used, and all the cleaning of the pool is achieved purely with the motion of the water through biological filters and plants rooted hydroponically in the system. In essence, natural pools seek to recreate swimming holes and swimmable lakes, the environment where people feel safe swimming in a non-polluted, healthy, and ecologically balanced body of water.

Water in natural pools has many desirable characteristics. For example, red eyes, dried-out skin and hair, and bleached **swimsuits** associated with overly chlorinated water are naturally absent in natural pools. ^[***citation needed***] Natural pools, by requiring a water garden to be a part of the system, offer different aesthetic options and can support amphibious wildlife such as snails, frogs, and salamanders, and even small fish if desired.

Zero-entry swimming pools

^[***edit***]

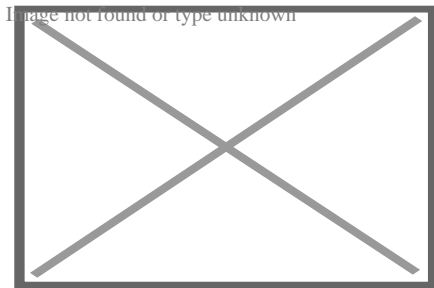


Zero-depth entry at the **Centennial Beach** aquatic park in **Naperville, Illinois**, United States

A *zero-entry swimming pool*, also called a *beach entry swimming pool*, has an edge or entry that gradually slopes from the deck into the water, becoming deeper with each step, in the manner of a natural beach. As there are no stairs or ladders to navigate, this type of entry assists older people, young children and people with **accessibility** problems (e.g., people with a physical disability) where gradual entry is useful.

Indoor pools

[**edit**]



Indoor swimming pool

Indoor pools are located inside a building with a roof and are insulated by at least three walls. Built for year-round swimming or training, they are found in all climate types. Since the buildings around indoor pools are insulated, heat escapes much less, making it less expensive to heat indoor pools than outdoor pools (all of whose heat escapes). **[39]**

Architecturally, an indoor pool may look like the rest of the building, but extra heating and ventilation and other **engineering** solutions are required to ensure comfortable humidity levels. In addition to drainage and automatic pool covers, there are a number of ways to remove the humidity present in the air in any wet indoor environment. Efficient **dehumidification** in the indoor pool environment prevents structural damage, lowers energy costs for cooling or heating, and improves the indoor climate to provide a comfortable swimming environment. **[citation needed]**

Some colleges, universities, and high schools have buildings that use the term "natatorium" in their names, especially when the building houses more than just a swimming pool, for example a **diving** well or facilities for **water polo**. The word *natatorium* was borrowed from **Late Latin** "place for swimming" into English in New England in **1890**.**[40][41]**

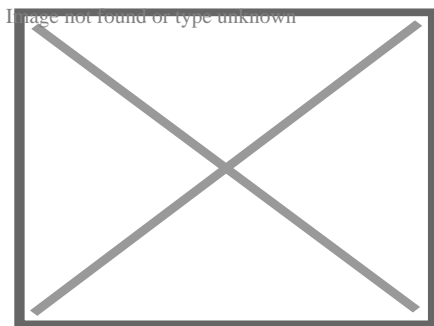
Suspended swimming pool

[[edit](#)]

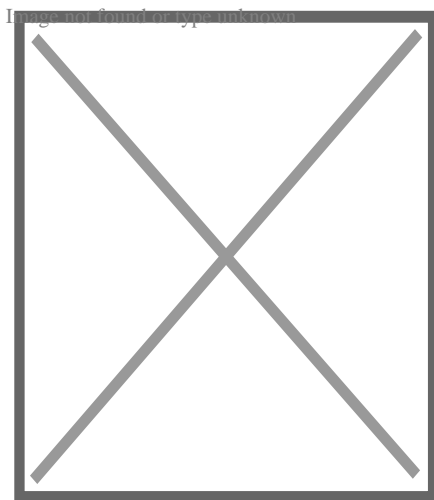
This type of swimming pool is suspended high above the ground. A prominent example is the [Sky Pool](#) in London's [Embassy Gardens](#), the world's first floating pool.^[42]

Other uses

[[edit](#)]



[Singapore Aviation Academy](#) training pool for rescuing people on board aircraft in case of ditching



An astronaut prepares to descend into a swimming pool as part of a training exercise.

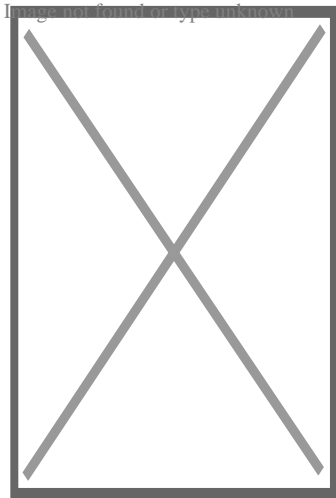
Swimming pools are also used for events such as [synchronized swimming](#), [water polo](#), [canoe polo](#) and [underwater sports](#) such as [underwater hockey](#), [underwater rugby](#), [finswimming](#) and [sport diving](#) as well as for teaching [diving](#), [lifesaving](#) and [scuba diving](#) techniques. They have also been used for specialist tasks such as teaching water-[ditching](#) survival techniques for

aircraft and submarine crews and **astronaut** training. Round-cornered, irregular swimming pools, such as the **Nude Bowl**, were drained of water and used for vertical **skateboarding**.

Sanitation

[[edit](#)]

Main articles: **Swimming pool sanitation** and **Swimming pool bacteria**



Automated pool cleaner

Levels of bacteria and viruses in swimming pool water must be kept low to prevent the spread of diseases and pathogens. Bacteria, **algae** and insect **larvae** can breed in the pool if water is not properly sanitized. Pumps, mechanical **sand filters**, and disinfectants are often used to sanitise the water.

Chemical disinfectants, such as **chlorine** (usually as a **hypochlorite** salt, such as **calcium hypochlorite**) and **bromine**, are commonly used to kill pathogens. If not properly maintained, chemical sanitation can produce high levels of **disinfection byproducts**. Sanitized swimming pool water can theoretically appear green if a certain amount of iron salts or **copper chloride** are present in the water.^[43]

Acesulfame potassium has been used to estimate how much urine is discharged by swimmers into a pool.^[44] A Canadian study estimated that swimmers had released 75 litres of urine into a large pool that had about 830,000 litres of water and was a third of the size of an **olympic pool**. **Hot tubs** were found to have higher readings of the marker. While urine itself is relatively harmless, its degradation products may lead to asthma.^[44]

Covers

[[edit](#)]

Swimming pool heating costs can be significantly reduced by using a pool cover. Use of a pool cover also can help reduce the amount of chemicals (chlorine, etc.) required by the pool. Outdoor pools gain heat from the sun, absorbing 75–85% of the solar energy striking the pool surface. Though a cover decreases the total amount of solar heat absorbed by the pool, the cover eliminates heat loss due to evaporation and reduces heat loss at night through its insulating properties. Most swimming pool heat loss is through evaporation. [\[45\]](#)

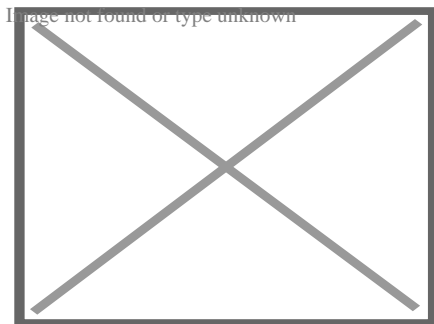
Winterization

[\[edit\]](#)

In areas which reach freezing temperature, it is important to close a pool properly. This varies greatly between in-ground and above-ground pools. By taking steps to properly secure the pool, it lessens the likelihood that the superstructure will be damaged or compromised by freezing water. [\[46\]](#)

Closing vinyl and fibreglass pools

[\[edit\]](#)



A rolled up pool cover, used to reduce water loss from evaporation and heat loss from the pool

In preparation for freezing temperatures, an in-ground swimming pool's pipes must be emptied. An above-ground pool should also be closed, so that ice does not drag down the pool wall, collapsing its structure. The plumbing is sealed with air, typically with rubber plugs, to prevent cracking from freezing water. The pool is typically covered to prevent leaves and other debris from falling in. The cover is attached to the pool typically using a stretch cord, similar to a [bungee cord](#), and hooks fitted into the pool surround. The skimmer is closed off or a floating device is placed into it to prevent it from completely freezing and cracking.

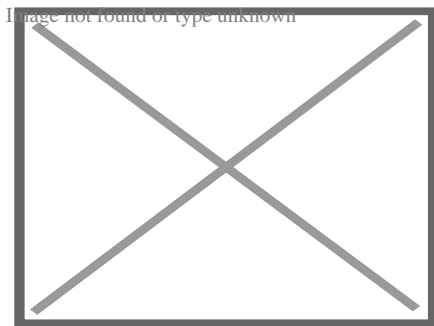
Floating objects such as life rings or [basketballs](#) can be placed in the pool to avoid its freezing under the cover. Sand or DE filters must be backwashed, with the main drain plug removed and all water drained out. Drain plugs on the [pool filter](#) are removed after the filter has been

cleaned. The pool pump motor is taken under cover. Winter chemicals are added to keep the pool clean. The innovation of a composite construction of fiberglass, with an epoxy coating and porcelain ceramic tiles has led to the pre-form, composite-type with significant advantages over older methods; however, it also has increased sensitivity to metal staining. ^[citation needed]

In climates where there is no risk of freezing, closing down the pool for winter is not so important. Typically, the thermal cover is removed and stored. Winter sunlight can create an algae mess when a cover that has been left on all winter is removed. The pool is correctly pH-balanced and super-chlorinated. One part algaecide for every 50,000 parts of pool water should be added, and topped up each month. The pool should be filtered for one to two hours daily to keep the automated chlorination system active. ^[citation needed]

Safety

^[edit]



Lifeguard at a Hong Kong swimming pool

Pools pose a risk of drowning, which may be significant for swimmers who are inexperienced, suffer from seizures, or are susceptible to a heart or respiratory condition. Lifeguards are employed at most pools to execute water rescues and administer first aid as needed in order to reduce this risk.

Diving in shallow areas of a pool may also lead to significant head and neck injuries; diving, especially head-first diving, should be done in the deepest point of the pool, minimally 2.4 m (7 ft 10 in), but desirably 3.7 m (12 ft), deeper if the distance between the water and the board is great.

Pools present a risk of death due to drowning particularly in young children. In regions where residential pools are common, drowning is a major cause of childhood death. As a precaution, many jurisdictions require that residential pools be enclosed with fencing to restrict unauthorized access. Many products exist, such as removable baby fences. The evidence for floating alarms and window/door alarms to reduce the risk of drowning is poor. ^[47] Some pools are equipped with computer-aided drowning prevention or other forms of electronic safety and security systems.

Suspended ceilings in indoor swimming pools are safety-relevant components. The selection of materials under tension should be done with care. Especially the selection of unsuitable stainless steels can cause problems with [stress corrosion cracking](#).^[48]

Dress code

[\[edit\]](#)

Further information: [Mixed bathing](#)

In public swimming pools, dress code may be stricter than on public beaches, and in indoor pools stricter than outdoor pools. For example, in countries where women can be topless on the beach, this is often not allowed in a swimming pool, and a swimsuit must be worn. For men, wearing ordinary shorts and a T-shirt to go in the water at a beach may be considered acceptable, but pools usually require real [swimsuits](#) or other dedicated water wear as swimming with regular clothes can potentially weigh a swimmer down should they need to be rescued. In France and some other European countries, [board shorts](#) are usually not allowed for "hygienic" reasons. In [Nordic countries](#), in particular [Iceland](#), rules about clothing and hygiene are especially strict.^[49] When diving from a high board, swimsuits are sometimes worn doubled up (one brief inside another) in case the outer suit tears on impact with the water.

See also

[\[edit\]](#)

- [Automated pool cleaner](#)
- [Bather load](#)
- [Lido](#)
- [List of water games](#)
- [Neutral buoyancy pool](#)
- [Pool fence](#)
- [Pool noodle](#)
- [Respiratory risks of indoor swimming pools](#)
- [Swimming pool service technician](#)
- [Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Code](#)
- [Urine-indicator dye](#)

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[\[edit\]](#)

- [^] *"Great Bath, Mohenjo-daro"*. *harappa.com*.

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- **v**
- **t**
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Rooms and spaces of a **house**

Shared rooms

- Bonus room
- Common room
- Den
- Dining room
- Family room
- Garret
- Great room
- Home cinema
- Keeping room
- Kitchen
 - dirty kitchen
 - kitchenette
- Living room
- Gynaecium
 - harem
- Andron
 - man cave
- Recreation room
 - billiard room
- Shrine
- Study
- Sunroom

Private rooms

- Bathroom
 - toilet
- Bedroom / Guest room
 - closet
- Bedsit / Miniflat
- Boudoir
- Cabinet
- Nursery

Spaces

- Atrium
- Balcony
- Breezeway
- Conversation pit
- Cubby-hole
- Deck
- Elevator
 - dumbwaiter
- Entryway/Genkan
- Fireplace
 - hearth
- Foyer
- Hall
- Hallway
- Inglenook
- Lanai
- Loft
- Loggia
- Overhang
- Patio
- Porch
 - screened
 - sleeping
- Ramp
- Secret passage
- Stairs/Staircase
- Terrace
- Veranda
- Vestibule

**Technical, utility
and storage**

- Attic
- Basement
- Carport
- Cloakroom
- Closet
- Crawl space
- Electrical room
- Equipment room
- Furnace room / Boiler room
- Garage
- Janitorial closet
- Larder
- Laundry room / Utility room / Storage room
- Mechanical room / floor
- Pantry
- Root cellar
- Semi-basement
- Storm cellar / Safe room
- Studio
- Wardrobe
- Wine cellar
- Wiring closet
- Workshop

Great house areas

- Antechamber
- Ballroom
- Kitchen-related
 - butler's pantry
 - buttery
 - saucery
 - scullery
 - spicery
 - still room
- Conservatory / Orangery
- Courtyard
- Drawing room
- Great chamber
- Great hall
- Library
- Long gallery
- Lumber room
- Parlour
- Sauna
- Servants' hall
- Servants' quarters
- Smoking room
- Solar
- State room
- Swimming pool
- Turret
- Undercroft

Other

- Furniture
- Hidden room
- House
 - house plan
 - styles
 - types
- Multi-family residential
- Secondary suite
- Duplex
- Terraced
- Detached
- Semi-detached
- Townhouse
- Studio apartment

**Architectural
elements**

- Arch
- Balconet
- Baluster
- Belt course
- Bressummer
- Ceiling
- Chimney
- Colonnade / Portico
- Column
- Cornice / Eaves
- Dome
- Door
- Ell
- Floor
- Foundation
- Gable
- Gate
 - Portal
- Lighting
- Ornament
- Plumbing
- Quoins
- Roof
 - shingles
- Roof lantern
- Sill plate
- Style
 - list
- Skylight
- Threshold
- Transom
- Vault
- Wall
- Window

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- Backyard
- Driveway
- Front yard
- Garden
 - roof garden
- Home
- Home improvement
- Home repair
- Shed
- Tree house

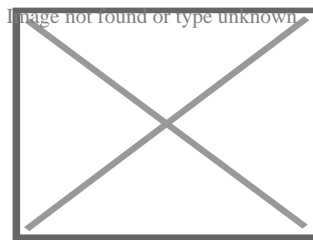
○  **Category: Rooms**

- **v**
- **t**
- **e**

Ponds, pools, and puddles

Ponds

- Ash pond
- Balancing lake
- Ballast pond
- Beel
- Cooling pond
- Detention pond
- Dew pond
- Evaporation pond
- Facultative lagoon
- Garden pond
- Ice pond
- Immersion pond
- Infiltration basin
- Kettle pond
- Log pond
- Melt pond
- Mill pond
- Polishing pond
- Raceway pond
- Retention pond
- Sag pond
- Salt evaporation pond
- Sediment pond
- Settling pond
- Solar pond
- Stepwell
- Stew pond
- Tailings
- Tarn
- Waste pond
- Waste stabilization pond



Pools

- Anchialine pool
- Brine pool
- Infinity pool
- Natural pool
- Ocean pool
- Plunge pool
- Reflecting pool
- Spent fuel pool
- Stream pool
- Swimming pool
- Tide pool
- Vernal pool

Puddles

- Bird bath
- Coffee ring effect
- Puddle
- Puddles on a surface
- Seep puddle

Biome

- Beaver dam
- Duck pond
- Fish pond
- Goldfish pond
- Koi pond

Ecosystems

- Aquatic ecosystem
- Freshwater ecosystem
- Lake ecosystem

Related

- Aerated lagoon
- Bakki shower
- Big fish–little pond
- Body of water
- Constructed wetland
- Full pond
- Hydric soil
- Phytotelma
- Pond of Abundance
- Pond liner
- Ponding
- *Puddle* (M C Escher)
- Spring
- Swimming hole
- Water aeration
- Water garden
- *Water Lilies* (Monet)
- Well

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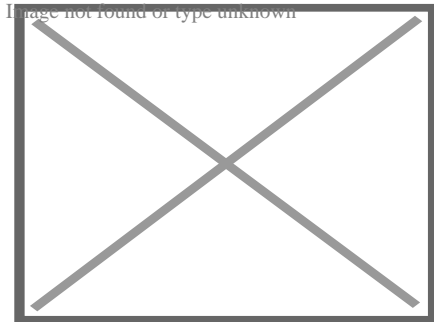
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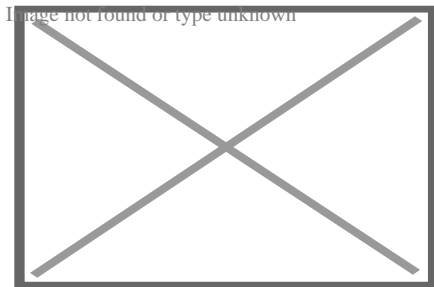
"Lawns" redirects here. For other uses, see [Lawns \(disambiguation\)](#).



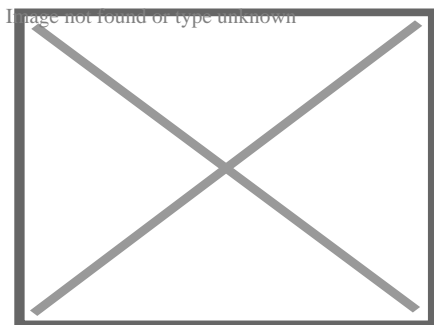
This article **possibly contains original research**. Please [improve it](#) by [verifying](#) the claims made and adding [inline citations](#). Statements consisting only of original research should be removed. *(July 2016)* ([Learn how and when to remove this message](#))



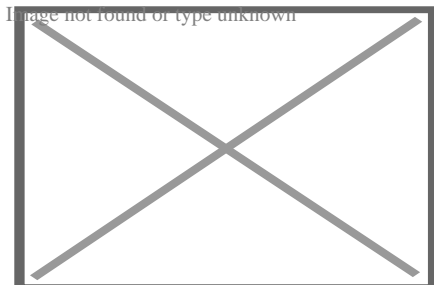
The [Lawn](#) at the [University of Virginia](#), facing south



The lawn of a small [summerhouse](#)



A [croquet](#) lawn at a club in [Edinburgh](#), Scotland



[San Francisco Botanical Garden](#) lawn, United States

A lawn (/l

awn/ is an area of soil-covered land planted with **grasses** and other durable plants such as **clover** which are maintained at a short height with a **lawn mower** (or sometimes grazing animals) and used for aesthetic and recreational purposes—it is also commonly referred to as part of a **garden**. Lawns are usually composed only of grass species, subject to **weed** and **pest control**, maintained in a green color (e.g., by **watering**), and are regularly mowed to ensure an acceptable length.[1] Lawns are used around houses, apartments, commercial buildings and offices. Many city parks also have large lawn areas. In recreational contexts, the specialised names **turf**, **parade**, **pitch**, **field** or **green** may be used, depending on the sport and the continent.

The term "lawn", referring to a managed grass space, dates to at least the 16th century. With **suburban** expansion, the lawn has become culturally ingrained in some areas of the world as part of the desired household aesthetic.[2] However, awareness of the negative environmental impact of this ideal is growing.[3] In some jurisdictions where there are water shortages, local government authorities are encouraging alternatives to lawns to reduce water use. Researchers in the United States have noted that suburban lawns are "biological deserts" that are contributing to a "continental-scale ecological homogenization." [4] Lawn maintenance practices also cause **biodiversity loss** in surrounding areas.[5][6] Some forms of lawn, such as **tapestry lawns**, are designed partly for biodiversity and pollinator support.

Etymology

[edit]

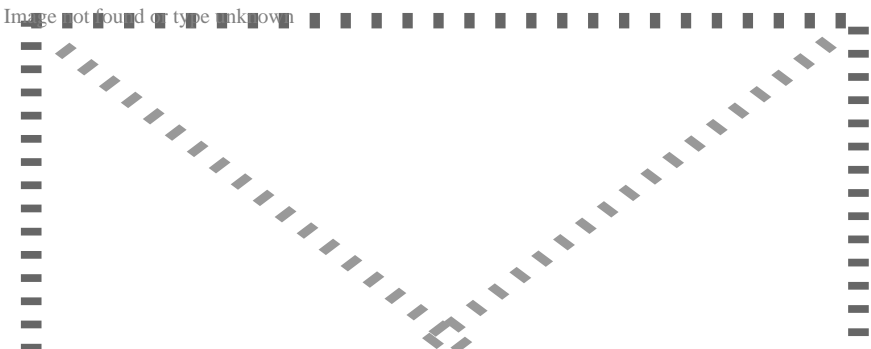
Lawn is a **cognate** of Welsh *llan* (Cornish and Breton **lann** which is derived from the **Common Brittonic** word *landa* (**Old French**: *lande*) that originally meant heath, barren land, or clearing.[7][8]

History

[edit]

Origins

[edit]



Classic English **parkland**: short, springy turf with spaced trees. Sheep keep the greensward closely-cropped. In Britain, **raising wool for export** was very profitable (see **enclosure** and **Scottish Clearances**), and parkland trees provided **grown crooks** valuable in **shipbuilding**. This profitable landscape became associated with the landed gentry.

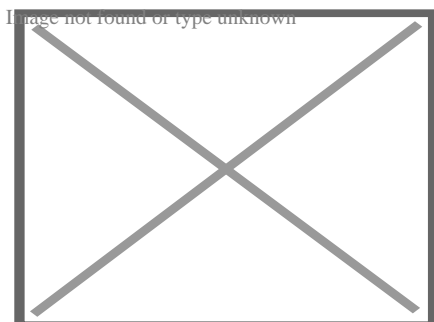
Areas of grass grazed regularly by **rabbits**, **horses** or **sheep** over a long period often form a very low, tight sward similar to a modern lawn. This was the original meaning of the word "lawn", and the term can still be found in place names. Some forest areas where extensive **grazing** is practiced still have these seminatural lawns. For example, in the **New Forest, England**, such grazed areas are common, and are known as lawns, for example **Balmer Lawn**.
[*citation needed*]

Lawns may have originated as grassed enclosures within early medieval settlements used for communal grazing of **livestock**, as distinct from **fields** reserved for agriculture.
[*citation needed*]
Low, mown-meadow areas may also have been valued because they allowed those inside an enclosed fence or castle to view those approaching. The early lawns were not always distinguishable from **pasture** fields. The damp climate of maritime Western Europe in the north made lawns possible to grow and manage. They were not a part of gardens in most other regions and cultures of the world until contemporary influence. [9]

In 1100s Britain, low-growing area of grasses and **meadow flowers** were grazed or scythed to keep them short, and used for sport. [10] **Lawn bowling**, which **began in the 12th or 13th century**, required short turf. [10]

Establishing grass using **sod** instead of seed was first documented in a Japanese text of 1159. [10]

Lawns became popular with the **aristocracy** in northern **Europe** from the **Middle Ages** onward. In the fourteen hundreds, open expanses of low grasses appear in paintings of public and private areas; by the fifteen hundreds, such areas were found in the gardens of the wealthy across northern and central Europe. Public meadow areas, kept short by sheep, were used for new sports such as cricket, soccer, and golf. [10] The word "laune" is first attested in 1540 from the **Old French** *lande* "heath, moor, barren land; clearing". [11] It initially described a natural opening in a woodland. [10] In the sixteen hundreds, "lawn" came to mean a grassy stretch of untilled land, and by mid-century, there were publications on seeding and transplanting sod. In the seventeen hundreds, "lawn" came to mean specifically a *mown* stretch of meadow. [10]



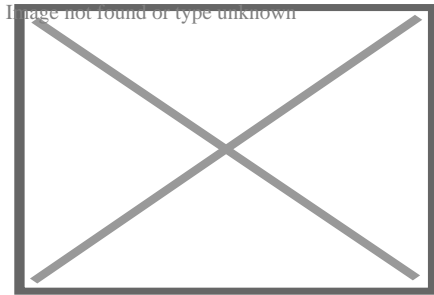
Gardens of the **Château de Vaux-le-Vicomte**, designed by **André Le Nôtre** at **Maincy**

Lawns similar to those of today first appeared in France and England in the 1700s when **André Le Nôtre** designed the gardens of the **Palace of Versailles** that included a small area of grass called the *tapis vert*, or "green carpet", which became a common feature of French gardens. Large, mown open spaces became popular in Europe and North America.^[10] The lawn was influenced by later seventeen-hundreds trends replicating the romantic aestheticism of grassy pastoralism from Italian landscape paintings.^[12]

Before the invention of **mowing machines** in 1830, lawns were managed very differently. They were an element of wealthy estates and **manor houses**, and in some places were maintained by labor-intensive **scything** and shearing (for **hay** or **silage**). They were also pasture land maintained through grazing by **sheep** or other **livestock**.^[citation needed]

The English lawn

[edit]

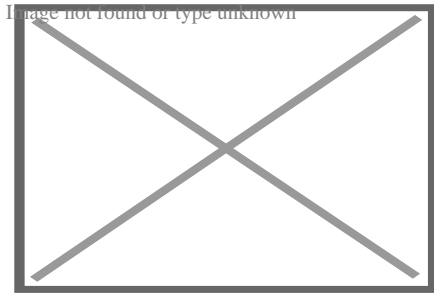


Capability Brown's landscape design at **Badminton House**

It was not until the 17th and 18th century that the garden and the lawn became a place created first as walkways and social areas. They were made up of meadow plants, such as **camomile**, a particular favourite (see **camomile lawn**). In the early 17th century, the **Jacobean** epoch of gardening began; during this period, the closely cut "English" lawn was born. By the end of this period, the English lawn was a symbol of status of the **aristocracy** and **gentry**.^[citation needed]

In the early 18th century, landscape gardening for the **aristocracy** entered a golden age, under the direction of **William Kent** and **Lancelot "Capability" Brown**. They refined the **English landscape garden** style with the design of natural, or "romantic", estate settings for wealthy Englishmen.^[13] Brown, remembered as "England's greatest gardener", designed over 170 parks, many of which still endure. His influence was so great that the contributions to the English garden made by his predecessors **Charles Bridgeman** and **William Kent** are often overlooked.^[14]

His work still endures at [Croome Court](#) (where he also designed the house), [Blenheim Palace](#), [Warwick Castle](#), [Harewood House](#), [Bowood House](#), [Milton Abbey](#) (and nearby [Milton Abbas](#) village), in traces at [Kew Gardens](#) and many other locations.[15] His style of smooth undulating lawns which ran seamlessly to the house and meadow, clumps, belts and scattering of trees and his serpentine lakes formed by invisibly damming small rivers, were a new style within the English landscape, a "gardenless" form of landscape gardening, which swept away almost all the remnants of previous formally patterned styles. His landscapes were fundamentally different from what they replaced, the well-known formal gardens of England which were criticised by [Alexander Pope](#) and others from the 1710s.[16]



1803 painting of the main elements of the English landscape garden

The open "English style" of parkland first spread across Britain and Ireland, and then across Europe, such as the [garden à la française](#) being replaced by the [French landscape garden](#). By this time, the word "lawn" in England had semantically shifted to describe a piece of a garden covered with grass and closely mown.[17]

In North America

[[edit](#)]

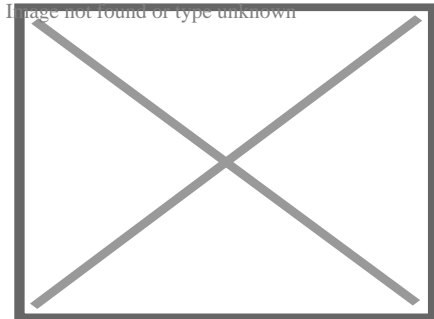
Wealthy families in America during the late 18th century also began mimicking English landscaping styles. British settlers in North America imported an affinity for landscapes in the style of the English lawn. However, early in the colonization of the continent, environments with thick, low-growing, grass-dominated vegetation were rare in the eastern part of the continent, enough so that settlers were warned that it would be difficult to find land suitable for grazing cattle.[18] In 1780, the [Shaker](#) community began the first industrial production of high-quality grass seed in North America, and a number of seed companies and nurseries were founded in [Philadelphia](#). The increased availability of these grasses meant they were in plentiful supply for parks and residential areas, not just livestock.[17]

[Thomas Jefferson](#) has long been given credit for being the first person to attempt an English-style lawn at his estate, [Monticello](#), in 1806, but many others had tried to emulate English landscaping before he did. Over time, an increasing number towns in [New England](#) began to emphasize grass spaces. Many scholars link this development to the romantic and

transcendentalist movements of the 19th century. These green commons were also heavily associated with the success of the Revolutionary War and often became the homes of patriotic war memorials after the **Civil War** ended in 1865.[17]

Middle class pursuit

[edit]

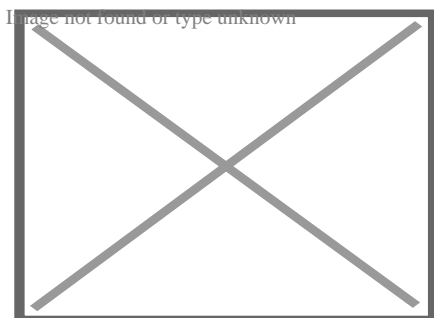


The lawn at **Kirkby Fleetham** Hall, Yorkshire, England, circa 1889

Before the mechanical lawn mower, the upkeep of lawns was possible only for the extremely wealthy estates and **manor houses** of the aristocracy. Labor-intensive methods of **scything** and shearing the grass were required to maintain the lawn in its correct state, and most of the land in England was required for more functional, **agricultural** purposes.[citation needed]

This all changed with the invention of the lawn mower by **Edwin Beard Budding** in 1830. Budding had the idea for a lawn mower after seeing a machine in a local cloth mill which used a cutting cylinder (or bladed reel) mounted on a bench to trim the irregular nap from the surface of woolen cloth and give a smooth finish.[19] Budding realised that a similar device could be used to cut grass if the mechanism was mounted in a wheeled frame to make the blades rotate close to the lawn's surface. His mower design was to be used primarily to cut the lawn on sports grounds and extensive gardens, as a superior alternative to the **scythe**, and he was granted a British patent on 31 August 1830.[20]

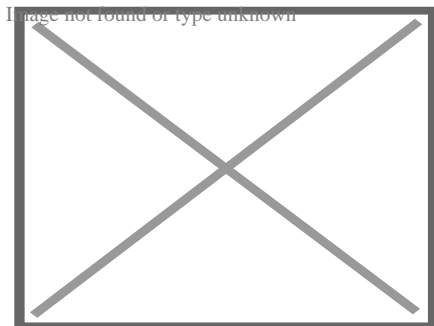
Budding went into partnership with a local engineer, John Ferrabee, who paid the costs of development and acquired rights to manufacture and sell lawn mowers and to **license** other manufacturers. Together they made mowers in a factory at **Thrupp** near Stroud.[21] Among the other companies manufacturing under license the most successful was **Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies** of Ipswich which began mower production as early as 1832.[22]



The first petrol-powered lawnmower, 1902

However, his model had two crucial drawbacks. It was immensely heavy (it was made of **cast iron**) and difficult to manoeuvre in the garden, and did not cut the grass very well. The blade would often spin above the grass uselessly.[22] It took ten more years and further innovations, including the advent of the **Bessemer process** for the production of the much lighter alloy **steel** and advances in motorization such as the **drive chain**, for the lawn mower to become a practical proposition. Middle-class families across the country, in imitation of aristocratic landscape gardens, began to grow finely trimmed lawns in their back gardens.[*citation needed*]

In the 1850s, **Thomas Green** of **Leeds** introduced a revolutionary mower design called the Silens Messor (meaning silent cutter), which used a chain to transmit power from the rear roller to the cutting cylinder. The machine was much lighter and quieter than the gear driven machines that preceded them, and won first prize at the first lawn mower trial at the London Horticultural Gardens.[22] Thus began a great expansion in the lawn mower production in the 1860s. **James Sumner** of **Lancashire** patented the first **steam-powered** lawn mower in 1893.[23] Around 1900, **Ransomes'** Automaton, available in chain- or gear-driven models, dominated the British market. In 1902, Ransomes produced the first commercially available mower powered by an internal combustion gasoline engine. JP Engineering of Leicester, founded after **World War I**, invented the first riding mowers.[*citation needed*]



From the 19th century, the cultivation of lawns, especially for sports, became a middle-class obsession in England. Pictured, a lawnmower advertisement from **Ransomes**.

This went hand-in-hand with a booming consumer market for lawns from the 1860s onward. With the increasing popularity of **sports** in the mid-Victorian period, the lawn mower was used to craft modern-style sporting ovals, playing fields, pitches and grass courts for the nascent sports of **football**, **lawn bowls**, **lawn tennis** and others.[24] The rise of **Suburbanisation** in the **interwar period** was heavily influenced by the **garden city movement** of **Ebenezer Howard** and the creation of the first **garden suburbs** at the turn of the 20th century.[25] The garden suburb, developed through the efforts of **social reformer Henrietta Barnett** and her husband, exemplified the incorporation of the well manicured lawn into suburban life. [26] Suburbs dramatically increased in size. **Harrow Weald** went from just 1,500 to over 10,000 while **Pinner** jumped from 3,00 to over 20,000. During the 1930s, over 4 million new suburban houses were built and the 'suburban revolution' had made England the most heavily suburbanized country

in the world by a considerable margin.[27]

Lawns began to proliferate in America from the 1870s onwards. As more plants were introduced from Europe, lawns became smaller as they were filled with **flower beds**, **perennials**, sculptures, and water features.[28] Eventually the wealthy began to move away from the cities into new suburban communities. In 1856, an architectural book was published to accompany the development of the new suburbia that placed importance on the availability of a grassy space for children to play on and a space to grow fruits and vegetables that further imbued the lawn with cultural importance.[17] Lawns began making more appearances in development plans, magazine articles, and catalogs.[29] The lawn became less associated with being a **status symbol**, instead giving way to a landscape aesthetic. Improvements in the lawn mower and water supply enabled the spread of lawn culture from the **Northeast** to the **South**, where the grass grew more poorly.[17] This in combination with **setback rules**, which required all homes to have a 30-foot gap between the structure and the sidewalk meant that the lawn had found a specific place in suburbia.[28] In 1901, the United States Congress allotted \$17,000 to the study of the best grasses for lawns, creating the spark for lawn care to become an industry.[30]

The chemical boom

[edit]

After **World War II**, a surplus of synthetic nitrogen in the United States led to chemical firms such as DuPont seeking to expand the market for fertilizers.[31] The suburban lawn offered an opportunity to market fertilizers, previously only used by farmers, to homeowners. In 1955, DuPont released Uramite, a slow-release nitrogen fertilizer specifically marketed for lawns. The trend continued throughout the 1960s, with chemical firms such as DuPont and Monsanto utilizing television advertising and other forms of advertisement to market pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides.[32] The environmental impacts of this widespread chemical use were noticed as early as the 1960s, but suburban lawns as a source of pollution were largely ignored.[33]

Organic lawns

[edit]

Due to the harmful effects of excessive pesticide use, fertilizer use, **climate change** and pollution, a movement developed in the late 20th century to require **organic lawn management**. By the first decade of the 21st century, American homeowners were using ten times more

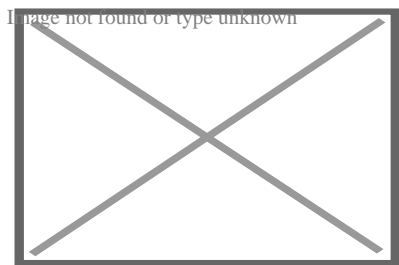
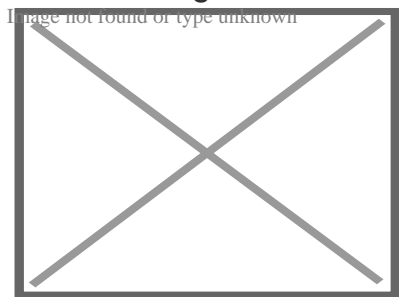
pesticides per acre than farmers, poisoning an estimated 60 to 70 million birds yearly. [34]
Lawn mowers are a significant contributor to pollution released into Earth's atmosphere, with a riding lawn mower producing the same amount of pollution in one hour of use as 34 cars. [34]

In recent years, [when?] some municipalities have banned synthetic pesticides and fertilizers and required organic land care techniques be used. [35] There are many locations with organic lawns that require organic landscaping. [citation needed]

United States

[edit]

Lawn seating



A Memorial Day concert
on the west lawn of the
U.S. Capitol Building

Prior to European colonization, the grasses on the East Coast of North America were mostly broom straw, wild rye, and marsh grass. As Europeans moved into the region, it was noted by colonists in New England, more than others, that the grasses of the New World were inferior to those of England and that their livestock seemed to receive less nutrition from it. In fact, once livestock brought overseas from Europe spread throughout the colonies, much of the native grasses of New England disappeared, and an inventory list from the 17th century noted supplies of clover and grass seed from England. New colonists were even urged by their country and companies to bring grass seed with them to North America. By the late 17th century, a new market in imported grass seed had begun in New England. [17]

Much of the new grasses brought by Europeans spread quickly and effectively, often ahead of the colonists. One such species, Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), became the most

important pasture grass for the southern colonies. [citation needed]

Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*) is a grass native to Europe or the Middle East. It was likely carried to Midwestern United States in the early 1600s by French missionaries and spread via the waterways to the region around Kentucky. However, it may also have spread across the Appalachian Mountains after an introduction on the east coast. [citation needed]

Farmers at first continued to harvest meadows and marshes composed of indigenous grasses until they became overgrazed. These areas quickly fell to erosion and were overrun with less favorable plant life. Soon, farmers began to purposefully plant new species of grass in these areas, hoping to improve the quality and quantity of hay to provide for their livestock as native species had a lower nutritive value. While Middle Eastern and Europeans species of grass did extremely well on the East Coast of North America, it was a number of grasses from the Mediterranean that dominated the Western seaboard. As cultivated grasses became valued for their nutritional benefits to livestock, farmers relied less and less on natural meadows in the more colonized areas of the country. Eventually even the grasses of the Great Plains were overrun with European species that were more durable to the grazing patterns of imported livestock. [17]

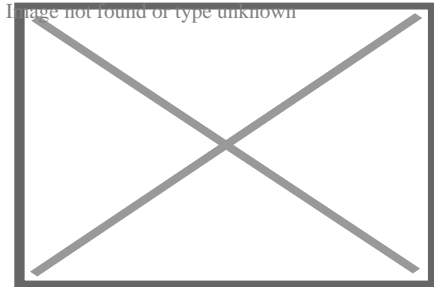
A pivotal factor in the spread of the lawn in America was the passage of legislation in 1938 of the 40-hour work week. Until then, Americans had typically worked half days on Saturdays, leaving little time to focus on their lawns. With this legislation and the housing boom following the Second World War, managed grass spaces became more commonplace. [28] The creation in the early 20th century of country clubs and golf courses completed the rise of lawn culture. [17]

According to study based on satellite observations by Cristina Milesi, NASA Earth System Science, its estimates: "More surface area in the United States is devoted to lawns than to individual irrigated crops such as corn or wheat.... area, covering about 128,000 square kilometers in all." [36]

Lawn monoculture was a reflection of more than an interest in offsetting depreciation, it propagated the homogeneity of the suburb itself. Although lawns had been a recognizable feature in English residences since the 19th century, a revolution in industrialization and monoculture of the lawn since the Second World War fundamentally changed the ecology of the lawn. Money and ideas flowed back from Europe after the U.S. entered WWI, changing the way Americans interacted with themselves and nature, and the industrialization of war hastened the industrialization of pest control. [37] Intensive suburbanization both concentrated and expanded the spread of lawn maintenance which meant increased inputs in not only petrochemicals, fertilizers, and pesticides, but also natural resources like water. [2][17][28]

Lawns became a means of performing class values for the urban middle class, in which the condition of the lawn becomes representative of moral character and social reliability. The social values associated with lawns are promoted and upheld by social pressure, laws, and

chemical producers. Social pressure comes from neighbors or **homeowner associations** who think that the unkempt lawns of neighbors may affect their own property values or create eyesores. Pressures to maintain a lawn are also legal; there are often local or state laws against letting weeds get too tall or letting a lawn space be especially unkempt, punishable by fees or litigation. Chemical producers unwilling to lose business propagate the ideal of a lawn, making it seem unattainable without chemical aid.[12]



A high school principal caring for the school lawn; from a 1916–1917 yearbook in **Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin**

Front lawns became standardized in the 1930s when, over time, specific aspects such as grass type and maintenance methods became popular. The lawn-care industry boomed, but the **Great Depression** of the 1930s and in the period prior to **World War II** made it difficult to maintain the cultural standards that had become heavily associated with the lawn due to grass seed shortages in Europe, America's main supplier. Still, seed distributors such as **Scotts Miracle-Gro Company** in the United States encouraged families to continue to maintain their lawns, promoting it as a stress-relieving hobby. During the war itself, homeowners were asked to maintain the appearances of the home front, likely as a show of strength, morale, and solidarity. After World War II, the lawn aesthetic once again became a standard feature of North America, bouncing back from its minor decline in the decades before with a vengeance, particularly as a result of the housing and population boom post-war.[17]

The **VA loan** in the United States let American ex-servicemen buy homes without providing a down payment, while the **Federal Housing Administration** offered lender inducements that aided the reduction of down payments for the average American from 30% to as little as 10%. These developments made owning your own home cheaper than renting, further enabling the spread of suburbia and its lawns.[28]

Levittown, New York, was the beginning of the industrial suburb in the 20th century, and by proxy the industrial lawn. Between 1947 and 1951, Abraham Levitt and his sons built more than seventeen thousand homes, each with its own lawn. Abraham Levitt wrote "No single feature of a suburban residential community contributes as much to the charm and beauty of the individual home and the locality as well-kept lawns". Landscaping was one of the most important factors in Levittown's success – and no feature was more prominent than the lawn. The Levitts understood that landscaping could add to the appeal of their developments and claimed that, "increase in values are most often found in neighborhoods where lawns show as green carpets" and that, over the years, "lawns trees and shrubs become more valuable both

aesthetically and monetarily".^[38] During 1948, the first spring that Levittown had enjoyed, Levitt and Sons fertilized and reseeded all of the lawns free of charge.^[28]

The economic recession that began in 2008 has resulted in many communities worldwide to dig up their lawns and plant fruit and vegetable gardens.^[citation needed] This has the potential to greatly change cultural values attached to the lawn, as they are increasingly viewed as environmentally and economically unviable in the modern context.^[39]

Australia

^[edit]

The appearance of the lawn in **Australia** followed closely after its establishment in North America and parts of Europe. Lawn was established on the so-called "nature strip" (a uniquely Australian term) by the 1920s and was common throughout the developing suburbs of Australia. By the 1950s, the Australian-designed **Victa lawn mower** was being used by the many people who had turned pastures into lawn and was also being exported to dozens of countries.^[40] Prior to the 1970s, all brush and native species were stripped from a development site and replaced with lawns that utilized imported plant species. Since the 1970s there has been an interest in using indigenous species for lawns, especially considering their lower water requirements.^[41] Lawns are also established in garden areas as well as used for the surface of sporting fields.^[citation needed]

Over time, with consideration to the frequency of droughts in Australia, the movement towards "naturalism", or the use of indigenous plant species in yards, was beneficial. These grasses were more drought resistant than their European counterparts, and many who wished to keep their lawns switched to these alternatives or allowed their green carpets to revert to the indigenous scrub in an effort to reduce the strain on water supplies.^[39] However, lawns remain a popular surface and their practical and aesthetically pleasing appearance reduces the use of water-impervious surfaces such as concrete. The growing use of **rainwater storage tanks** has improved the ability to maintain them.^[citation needed]

Following recent droughts,^[when?] Australia has seen a change to predominately warm-season turfgrasses, particularly in the southern states like New South Wales and Victoria which are predominately temperate climates within urban regions. The more drought tolerant grasses have been chosen by councils and homeowners for the choice of using less water compared to cool-season turfgrasses like fescue and ryegrass. Mild dormancy seems to be of little concern when high-profile areas can be oversown for short periods or nowadays, turf colourants (fake green) are very popular.^[citation needed]

Uses

[[edit](#)]

Newly seeded, fertilized and mowed lawn

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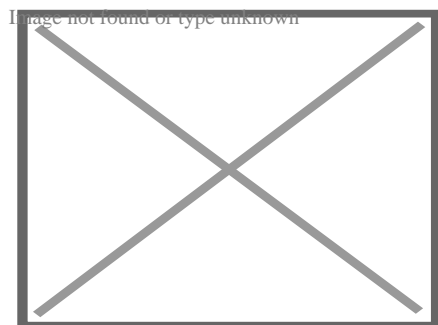
Newly seeded, fertilized and mowed

Lawns are a common feature of private [gardens](#), public landscapes and [parks](#) in many parts of the world. They are created for aesthetic pleasure, as well as for [sports](#) or other outdoor recreational use. Lawns are useful as a playing surface both because they mitigate erosion and dust generated by intensive foot traffic and because they provide a cushion for players in sports such as [rugby](#), [football](#), [soccer](#), [cricket](#), [baseball](#), [golf](#), [tennis](#), [field hockey](#), and lawn [bocce](#).^{[\[citation needed\]](#)}

Lawns and the resulting lawn clipping waste can be used as an ingredient in making compost and is also viewed as [fodder](#), used in the production of lawn clipping [silage](#) which is fed to livestock^{[\[42\]](#)[\[43\]](#)} as a sustainable feed source.

Types of lawn plants

[[edit](#)]



The area on the right has not been mown since the previous autumn.

Lawns need not be, and have not always been, made up of [grasses](#) alone. There exist, for instance, [moss lawns](#), [clover lawns](#), [thyme lawns](#), and [tapestry lawns](#) (made from diverse forbs). [Sedges](#), low [herbs](#) and [wildflowers](#), and other [ground covers](#) that can be walked upon are also used.^{[\[citation needed\]](#)}

Thousands of varieties of grasses and grasslike plants are used for lawns, each adapted to specific conditions of precipitation and irrigation, seasonal temperatures, and sun/shade tolerances. Plant hybridizers and botanists are constantly creating and finding improved varieties of the basic species and new ones, often more economical and environmentally

sustainable by needing less water, fertilizer, pest and disease treatments, and maintenance. The three basic categories are cool season grasses, warm season grasses, and grass alternatives.^{[[citation needed](#)]}

Grasses

[[edit](#)]

Many different species of grass are currently used, depending on the intended use and the climate. Coarse grasses are used where active sports are played, and finer grasses are used for ornamental lawns for their visual effects. Some grasses are adapted to **oceanic climates** with cooler summers, and others to **tropical** and **continental climates** with hotter summers. Often, a mixture of grass or low plant types is used to form a stronger lawn when one type does better in the warmer seasons and the other in the colder ones. This mixing is taken further by a form of grass breeding which produces what are known as **cultivars**. A cultivar is a cross-breed of two different varieties of grass and aims to combine certain traits taken from each individual breed. This creates a new strain which can be very specialised, suited to a particular environment, such as low water, low light or low nutrient.^{[[citation needed](#)]}

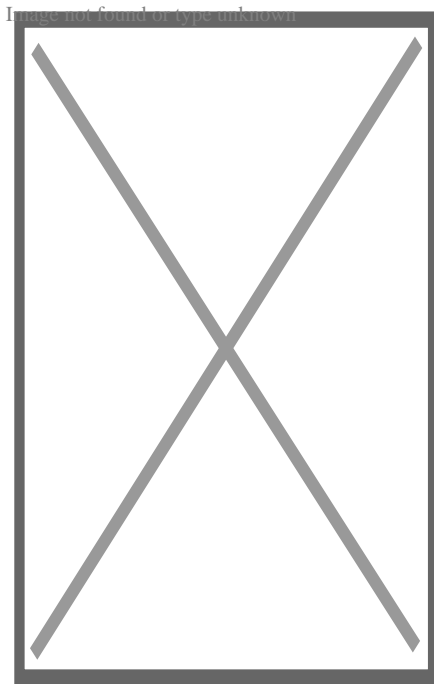


Diagram of a typical lawn grass plant

Cool season grasses

[[edit](#)]

Cool season grasses start growth at 5 °C (41 °F), and grow at their fastest rate when temperatures are between 10 °C (50 °F) and 25 °C (77 °F), in climates that have relatively mild/cool summers, with two periods of rapid growth in the spring and autumn. [44] They retain their color well in extreme cold and typically grow very dense, carpetlike lawns with relatively little thatch. [citation needed]

- Bluegrass (*Poa* spp.)
- Bentgrass (*Agrostis* spp.)
- Ryegrasses (*Lolium* spp.)
- Fescues (*Festuca* spp.)
- Feather reed grass (*Calamagrostis* spp.)
- Tufted hair grass (*Deschampsia* spp.)

Warm season grasses

[edit]

Warm season grasses only start growth at temperatures above 10 °C (50 °F), and grow fastest when temperatures are between 25 °C (77 °F) and 35 °C (95 °F), with one long growth period over the spring and summer (Huxley 1992). They often go dormant in cooler months, turning shades of tan or brown. Many warm season grasses are quite drought tolerant, and can handle very high summer temperatures, although temperatures below 15 °C (5 °F) can kill most southern ecotype warm season grasses. The northern varieties, such as buffalograss and blue grama, are hardy to 45 °C (113 °F).

- Zoysiagrass (*Zoysia* spp.)
- Bermudagrass (*Cynodon* spp.)
- St. Augustine grass (*Stenotaphrum secundatum*)
- Bahiagrass (*Paspalum* spp.)
- Centipedegrass (*Eremochloa ophiuroides*)
- Carpet grass (*Axonopus* spp.)
- Buffalograss (*Bouteloua dactyloides*)
- Grama grass (*Bouteloua* spp.)
- Kikuyu grass (*Pennisetum clandestinum*)

Grass seed for shade

[edit]

Grass seed mixes have been developed to include only grass seed species that grow well in low sunlight conditions. These seed mixes are designed to deal with light shade caused by

trees that can create patchiness, or slightly heavier shade that prevents the full growth of grass. Most lawns will experience shade in some shape or form due to surrounding fences, furniture, trees or hedges and these grass seed species' are especially useful in the **Northern Hemisphere** and **Northwestern Europe**.^[45]

- *Festuca rubra* subsp. *commutata* (Chewings Fescue)
- *Poa pratensis* (Smooth Stalked Meadow Grass)
- *Festuca ovina* (Sheeps Fescue)
- *Festuca trachyphylla* (hard fescue)
- *Festuca rubra* (Strong Creeping Red Fescue)

Sedges

[\[edit\]](#)

Carex species and cultivars are well represented in the **horticulture** industry as 'sedge' alternatives for 'grass' in mowed lawns and garden meadows. Both low-growing and spreading **ornamental cultivars** and **native species** are used in for **sustainable landscaping** as low-maintenance and **drought-tolerant** grass replacements for lawns and garden **meadows**. **Wildland habitat restoration** projects and **natural landscaping and gardens** also use them for 'user-friendly' areas. The **J. Paul Getty Museum** has used *Carex pansa* (meadow sedge) and *Carex praegracilis* (dune sedge) expansively in the **Sculpture Gardens** in **Los Angeles**.^[46]

Some lower **sedges** used are:

- *Carex caryophyllea* (cultivar 'The Beatles')
- *C. divulsa* (Berkeley sedge)^[46]
- *C. glauca* (blue sedge) (syn. *C. flacca*)
- *C. pansa* (meadow sedge)^[46]
- *C. praegracilis* (dune sedge)^[46]
- *C. subfusca* (mountain sedge)^[46]
- *C. tumulicola* (foothill sedge) (cultivar 'Santa Cruz Mnts. selection')^[46]
- *C. uncifolia* (ruby sedge)

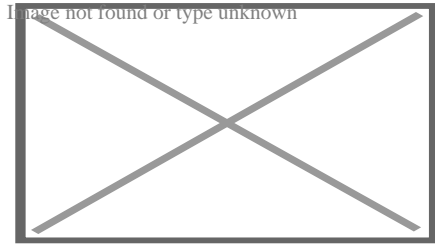
Other ground-cover plants

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A floral **tapestry lawn** in **Avondale Park**, London. The area was previously grassed parkland. Tapestry lawns support more diverse plants and pollinators.



A **moss lawn** at **T****Ä****f****Æ****Ä****†****â****€****™****Ä****f****Ä****ç****Ä****ç****â****€****š****Ä****–****Ä****!****Ä****f****Æ****Ä****ç****â****–****Ä****Ä****f****â****€****š****Ä****•****fuku****-ji**
The moss at the top of the image is golden-brown because it is dormant; it would become a brilliant green after a minute or two of misting, **[47]** but that would destroy the **ombré** effect.

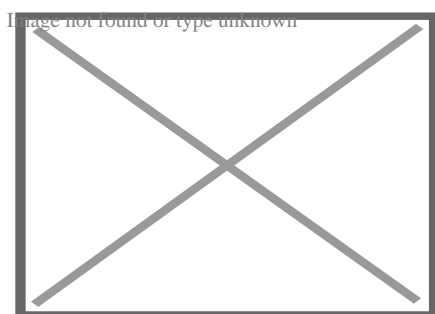
Moss lawns do well in shaded areas under trees, and require only about 1% of the water of a traditional grass lawn once established. **[48][47][49]** **Clover lawns** do especially well in damp, alkaline soils. **Yarrow lawns** are drought resistant, can be mowed to form a soft, comfortable turf; common yarrow is native throughout Europe, North America, and parts of Asia, and spreads vegetatively to cover the ground. **[50][51][52]** **Camomile lawns** and **thyme lawns** are fragrant (and native to Europe an North Africa). **Soleirolia soleirolii** favours shaded, damp spaces (and is often used in **tsubo-niwas**); it is native to the European side of the Mediterranean, and can be invasive elsewhere. **[53]**

Other low **ground covers** suitable for lawns include **Corsican mint** (native to three mediterranean islands, invasive), **Ophiopogon planiscapus** (native to Japan), **[53]** **Lippia** **[54]** and **lawnleaf**, **[55]** (native to Central America and southern North America), **[55][54]** **purple flowering Mazus** (native to East Asia), **grey Dymondia** (native to South Africa), creeping **sedums** (various species native to various continents), **[54]** **Cotula** species (ditto), **[55]** and **creeping jenny** (native to Europe). **[54]**

Eastern North America

[edit]

The examples and perspective in this section **may not represent a worldwide view** of the subject. You may **improve this section**, discuss the issue on the **talk page**, or **create a new section**, as appropriate. (October 2024) (**Learn how and when to remove this message**)



A ground cover plant, [common bearberry](#)

Some plants native to Eastern North America that can be used as alternatives to grass lawns or incorporated into lawns are:[\[56\]](#)[\[57\]](#)[\[58\]](#)[\[59\]](#)

- [Common yarrow](#)
- [Virginia springbeauty](#)[\[60\]](#)
- [Wild strawberry](#)
- [Dwarf cinquefoil](#)
- [Moss phlox](#)
- [Creeping phlox](#)
- [Sensitive fern](#)
- [Canadian wild ginger](#)
- [Cinnamon fern](#)
- [Lyreleaf sage](#)[\[61\]](#)
- [Allegheny pachysandra](#)
- [Woodland stonecrop](#)
- [Green-and-gold](#)
- [Beetleweed](#)
- [Blue-eyed grass](#)
- [Common blue violet](#)
- [Dwarf crested iris](#)
- [Wild pink](#)
- [Purple wood sorrel](#)
- [Spotted cranesbill](#)

Alternatives to lawns

[\[edit\]](#)

Alternatives to lawns include [meadows](#), drought-tolerant [xeriscape](#) gardens, [natural landscapes](#), [native plant](#) habitat gardens, paved [Spanish courtyard](#) and [patio gardens](#), [butterfly gardens](#), [rain gardens](#), and [kitchen gardens](#). Trees and shrubs in close proximity to lawns provide habitat for birds in [traditional](#), [cottage](#) and [wildlife gardens](#).[\[62\]](#)[\[citation needed\]](#)

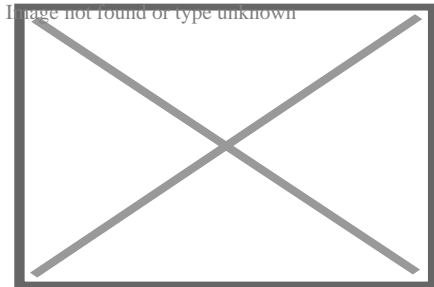
Lawn care and maintenance

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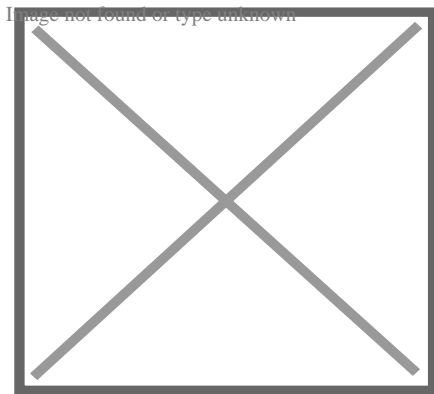
Seasonal lawn establishment and care varies depending on the climate zone and type of lawn grown.[\[citation needed\]](#)

Planting and seeding

[[edit](#)]



Broadcast spreaders can be attached to **tractors** or **ATVs** to spread seed or fertilizer

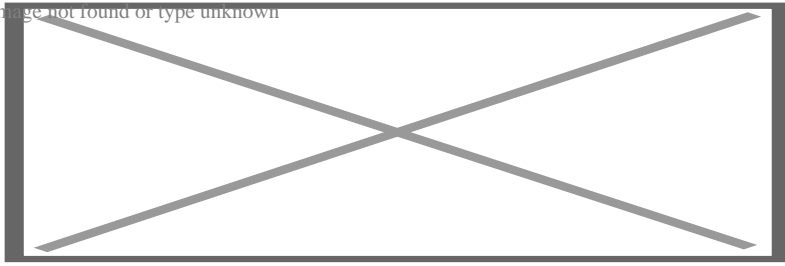


Aeration is one method used to maintain a lawn

Early autumn, spring, and early summer are the primary seasons to seed, lay **sod** (turf), plant 'liners', or 'sprig' new lawns, when the soil is warmer and air cooler. Seeding is the least expensive, but may take longer for the lawn to be established. **Aerating** just before planting/seeding may promote deeper root growth and thicker turf. ^[63]

Sodding (American English), or turfing (British English), provides an almost instant lawn, and can be undertaken in most temperate climates in any season, but is more expensive and more vulnerable to drought until established. **Hydroseeding** is a quick, less expensive method of planting large, sloped or hillside landscapes. Some grasses and sedges are available and planted from 'liner' and 4-inch (100 mm) containers, from 'flats', 'plugs' or 'sprigs', and are planted apart to grow together. ^[*citation needed*]

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Lawn growth, 20-hour time lapse

Fertilizers and chemicals

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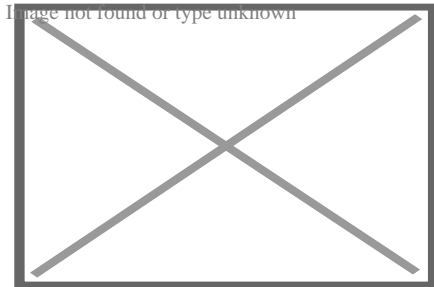
Various organic and inorganic or synthetic fertilizers are available, with instant or time-release applications. Pesticides, which includes biological and chemical [herbicides](#), [insecticides](#) and [fungicides](#), treating diseases like [gray leaf spot](#), are available. Consideration for their effects on the lawn and garden ecosystem and via runoff and dispersion on the surrounding environment, inform laws constraining their use. For example, the Canadian [province](#) of Quebec and over 130 [municipalities](#) prohibit the use of synthetic lawn pesticides. [\[64\]](#) The Ontario provincial government promised in September 2007 to also implement a province-wide ban on the cosmetic use of lawn pesticides, for protecting the public. Medical and environmental groups supported such a ban. [\[65\]](#)

On 22 April 2008, the Provincial Government of Ontario announced that it would pass legislation that would prohibit, province-wide, the cosmetic use and sale of lawn and garden pesticides. [\[66\]](#) The Ontario legislation would also echo Massachusetts law requiring pesticide manufacturers to reduce the toxins they use in production. [\[67\]](#) Experts [\[who?\]](#) advise that a healthy lawn contains at least some "weeds" and insects, discouraging indiscriminate use of potentially harmful chemicals. [\[34\]](#)

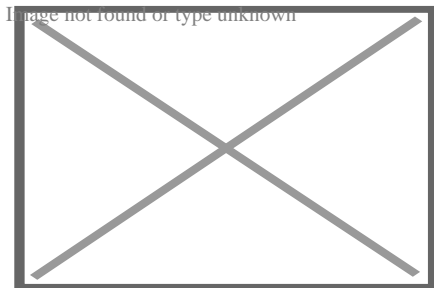
[Sustainable gardening](#) uses [organic horticulture](#) methods, such as [organic fertilizers](#), [biological pest control](#), [beneficial insects](#), and [companion planting](#), among other methods, to sustain an attractive lawn in a safe garden. An example of an organic herbicide is [corn gluten meal](#), which releases an 'organic dipeptide' into the soil to inhibit root formation of germinating [weed](#) seeds. An example of an organic alternative to insecticide use is applying beneficial [nematodes](#) to combat soil-dwelling [grubs](#), such as the larvae of [chafer beetles](#). The [Integrated Pest Management](#) approach is a coordinated low impact approach. [\[68\]](#)

Mowing and other maintenance practices

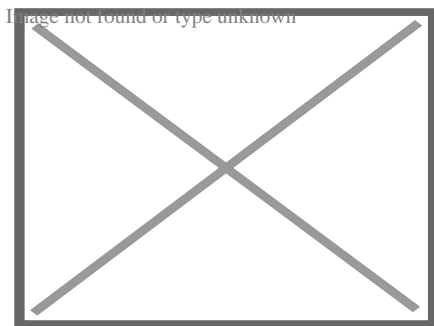
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A typical **lawn-mowing bot** maintaining even and low grass



Dethatching removes dead grass and decomposing materials that build up in a lawn



Lawn sweepers clean up debris from **dethatching** in addition to leaves, twigs, pine needles, etc.

Maintaining a rough lawn requires only occasional cutting with a suitable machine, or grazing by animals. Maintaining a smooth and closely cut lawn, be it for aesthetic or practical reasons or because **social pressure** from neighbors and local municipal ordinances requires it,^[69] necessitates more organized and regular treatments. Usually once a week is adequate for maintaining a lawn in most climates. However, in the hot and rainy seasons of regions contained in **hardiness zones** greater than 8, lawns may need to be maintained up to two times a week.^[70]

Low-maintenance alternatives to traditional turfgrass lawns reduce the need for frequent mowing, watering and chemical inputs.[71]

Social impacts

[edit]

The prevalence of the lawns in films such as *Pleasantville* (1998) and *Edward Scissorhands* (1990) alludes to the importance of the lawn as a social mechanism that gives great importance to visual representation of the American suburb as well as its practised culture. It is implied that a neighbor whose lawn is not in pristine condition is morally corrupt, emphasizing the role a well-kept lawn plays in neighborly and community relationships. In both of these films, green space surrounding a house in the suburbs becomes an indicator of **moral integrity** as well as of **social** and **gender norms** – lawn care has long been associated^[by whom] with men. These lawns also reinforce **class** and societal norms by subtly excluding those who may not have been able to afford a house with a lawn.[72]

The lawn as a reflection of someone's character and the neighborhood at large is not restricted to films; the same theme appears in *The Great Gatsby* (1925), by American novelist **F. Scott Fitzgerald**.^[73] Character Nick Carraway rents the house next to Gatsby's and fails to maintain his lawn according to West Egg standards. The rift between the two lawns troubles Gatsby to the point that he dispatches his gardener to mow Carraway's grass and thereby establish uniformity.^[citation needed]

Most lawn-care equipment over the decades has been advertised to men, and companies have long associated good lawn-care with good **citizenship** in their **marketing campaigns**. The appearance of a healthy lawn was meant^[by whom?] to imply the health of the man taking care of it; controlled weeds and strict boundaries became a practical application of the desire to control **nature**, as well as an expression of control over personal lives once working full-time became central to suburban success. Women were **encultured** over time to view the lawn as part of the household, as an essential furnishing, and to encourage their husbands to maintain a lawn for the family and community reputation.[17]

During **World War II** (1939–1945), women became the focus of lawn-care companies in the absence of their husbands and sons. These companies promoted lawn care as a necessary means by which women could help support their male family-members and American patriotism as a whole. The image of the lawn changed from focusing on technology and manhood to emphasizing aesthetic pleasure and the health benefits derived from its maintenance; advertisers at lawn care companies assumed that women would not respond positively to images of efficiency and power. The language of these marketing campaigns still intended to imbue the female population with notions of family, motherhood, and the duties of a wife; it has been argued^[by whom?] that this was done so that it would be easier for men returning from war to resume the roles which their wives had taken over in their absence. This was especially apparent in the 1950s and 1960s, when lawn-care rhetoric emphasized the

lawn as a husband's responsibility and as a pleasurable hobby when he retired. [17]

There are differences in the particulars of lawn maintenance and appearance, such as the length of the grass, species (and therefore its color), and mowing. [41][74]

Environmental concerns

[edit]

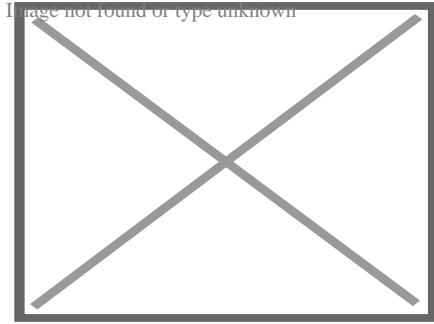
On average, greater amounts of chemical fertilizer, herbicide and pesticide are used to maintain a given area of lawn than on an equivalent area of cultivated farmland. [75][28] The use of these products causes environmental pollution, disturbance in the lawn ecosystem, and health risks to humans and wildlife. [76]

In response to environmental concerns, organic landscaping and **organic lawn management** systems have been developed and are **mandated in some municipalities** and properties. In the United Kingdom, the environmental group **Plantlife** has encouraged gardeners to refrain from mowing in the month of May to encourage plant diversity and provide nectar for insects. [77]

Other concerns, criticisms, and ordinances regarding lawns arise from wider environmental consequences:

- Lawns can reduce **biodiversity**, especially when the lawn covers a large area. [78] Traditional lawns often replace plant species that feed pollinators, requiring bees and butterflies to cross "wastelands" to reach food and host plants. [79] Lawns promote homogenization and are normally cleared of unwanted plant and animal species, typically with synthetic **pesticides**, which can also kill unintended target species. They may be composed of **introduced species** not native to the area, particularly in the United States. This can produce a habitat that supports a reduced number of wildlife species. [80]
- Lawn maintenance commonly involves use of fertilizers and synthetic **pesticides**, which can cause great harm. Some are **carcinogens** and **endocrine disruptors**. They may permanently linger in the environment and negatively affect the health of potentially all nearby organisms. The **United States Environmental Protection Agency** estimated in 2012 that nearly 32,000,000 kilograms (71,000,000 lb) of active pesticide ingredients are used on suburban lawns each year in the United States. [81] There are indications of an emerging regulatory response to this issue. For example, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Kuwait, and Belize have placed restrictions on the use of the herbicide **2,4-D**.
- It has been estimated that nearly 64,000,000 litres (14,000,000 imp gal; 17,000,000 US gal) of gasoline are spilled each summer while re-fueling garden and lawn-care equipment in the United States: approximately 50% more than that spilled during the **Exxon Valdez** incident. [28]

- The use of pesticides and fertilizers, requiring fossil fuels for manufacturing, distribution, and application, has been shown to contribute to global warming. (Sustainable organic techniques have been shown to help reduce global warming.)^[82] A hectare of lawn in Nashville, Tennessee, produces greenhouse gases equivalent to 697 to 2,443 kg of carbon dioxide a year. The higher figure is equivalent to a flight more than halfway around the world. Lawn mowing is one element of lawn culture that causes a great amount of emissions (which can be mitigated by replacing lawn mowers with **grazing** livestock). ^[83]



A **lawn sprinkler**

Water conservation

^[edit]

Maintaining a green lawn sometimes requires large amounts of **water**. While natural rainfall is usually sufficient to maintain a lawn's health in the temperate British Isles- the birthplace of the concept of the lawn- in times of drought hosepipe bans may be implemented by the water suppliers.^[84] Conversely, exportation of the lawn ideal to more arid regions (e.g. U.S. Southwest and Australia) strains **water supply** systems when water supplies are already scarce. This necessitates upgrades to larger, more environmentally invasive equipment to deal with increased demand due to lawn watering. Grass typically goes dormant during periods of cold or heat outside of its preferred temperature ranges; dormancy reduces the grasses' water demand. Most grasses typically recover quite well from a drought, but many property owners become concerned about the brown appearance and increase watering during the summer months. *Water in Australia* observed 1995 data that up to 90% of the water used in **Canberra** during summer **drought periods** was used for watering lawns.^[85]

In the **United States**, 50 to 70% of residential water is used for landscaping, with most used to water lawns.^[81] A 2005 **NASA** study estimated conservatively 128,000 square kilometres (49,000 sq mi; 32,000,000 acres) of irrigated lawn in the US, three times the area of irrigated corn.^[86] That translates to about 200 US gallons (760 L; 170 imp gal) of drinking-quality fresh water per person per day is required to keep up United States' lawn surface area. ^[citation needed]

In 2022, the state of Nevada pass a bill that not only banned the installation of new lawns in the state, but also mandated the removal of any lawn deemed "nonfunctional." This was in response to a years-long drought in the state. [87]

Chemicals

[edit]

An increased concern from the general public over pesticide and fertilizer use and their associated health risks, combined with the implementation of the legislation, such as the US [Food Quality Protection Act](#), has resulted in the reduced presence of synthetic chemicals, namely pesticides, in urban landscapes such as lawns in the late 20th century. [88] Many of these concerns over the safety and environmental impact of some of the synthetic fertilizers and pesticides has led to their ban by the [United States Environmental Protection Agency](#) and many local governments. [76] The use of pesticides and other chemicals to care for lawns has also led to the death of nearly 7 million birds each year, a topic that was central to the novel *Silent Spring* by the conservationist [Rachel Carson](#). [28]

The use of lawn chemicals made its first appearance in the 18th century through the introduction of "English garden" fads. These types of lawns put precise hedging, clean cut grass, and extravagant plants on display. Following the initial introduction of lawn chemicals, they have still been continually used throughout North America. Because many of the turf-grass species in North America are not native to our ecosystems, they require extensive maintenance. According to the United States Geological Survey, 99% of the urban water samples that were tested contained one or more types of pesticides. In addition to water contamination, chemicals are making their way into houses which can lead to chronic exposure. Currently, standards for pesticide management practices have been put in place through the Food Quality Protection Act. [12]

Environmental impact

[edit]

In the [United States](#), lawn heights are generally maintained by gasoline-powered [lawn mowers](#), which contribute to urban [smog](#) during the summer months. [89] The EPA found, in some urban areas, up to 5% of smog was due to small gasoline engines made before 1997, such as are typically used on lawn mowers. Since 1997, the EPA has mandated emissions controls on newer engines in an effort to reduce smog. [90]

A 2010 study seemed to show lawn care inputs were balanced by the [carbon sequestration](#) benefits of lawns, and they may not be contributors to [anthropogenic global warming](#).^[91]^[92] Lawns with high maintenance (mowing, irrigation, and leaf blowing) and high fertilization rates have a net emission of carbon dioxide and [nitrous oxide](#) that have large [global warming potential](#).^[93] Lawns that are fertilized, irrigated, and mowed weekly have a lower species diversity.^[94]

Replacing turf grass with low-maintenance groundcovers or employing a variety of low-maintenance perennials, trees and shrubs^[80] can be a good alternative to traditional lawn spaces, especially in hard-to-grow or hard-to-mow areas, as it can reduce maintenance requirements, associated pollution and offers higher aesthetic and wildlife value.^[95]^[71] Growing a mixed variety of flowering plants instead of turfgrass is sometimes referred to as meadowscaping.^[96]

Non-productive space

[\[edit\]](#)

Lawns take up space that could otherwise be used more productively, such as for [urban agriculture](#) or [home gardening](#). This is the case in many cities and suburbs in the United States, where open or unused spaces are "not generally a result of a positive decision to leave room for some use, but rather is an expression of a pastoral aesthetic norm that prizes spacious lawns and the [zoning restrictions](#) and neighborhood covenants that give these norms the force of law."^[97]

In urban and suburban spaces, growing food in front yards and [parking strips](#) can not only provide [fresh produce](#) but also be a source of neighborhood pride.^[98] While converting lawn space into strictly utilitarian farms is not common, incorporating edible plants into front yards with sustainable and aesthetically pleasing design is of growing interest in the United States. ^[99]

See also

[\[edit\]](#)

-  [Gardening portal](#)
- [Bacterial lawn](#)
- [Moss lawn](#)
- [Tapestry lawn](#)
- [Organic lawn management](#)
- [Gardening](#)

- List of organic gardening and farming topics

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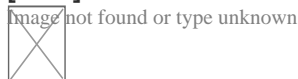
Further reading

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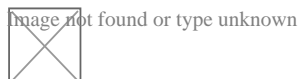
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- Steinberg, T. (2006). *American Green, The Obsessive Quest for the Perfect Lawn*. W.W. Norton & Co. *ISBN 0-393-06084-5*.
- Wasowski, Sally and Andy (2004). *Requiem for a Lawnmower*.

External links

[[edit](#)]



Wikimedia Commons has media related to **Lawns**.



Wikisource has the text of the 1920 *Encyclopedia Americana* article **Lawns**.

- "Planting and care of Lawns" from the UNT Govt. Documents Dept.
- Integrated Pest Management Program: website & search-engine
- How to look after your Lawn

- Lawn Care University at Michigan State University
- "EPA Management of Polluted Runoff: Nonpoint Source Pollution" (*includes mismanagement of lawns problems.*)

- **v**
- **t**
- **e**

Garden features

- Artificial waterfall
- Avenue
- Aviary
- Borrowed scenery
- Bosquet
- Belvedere
- Cascade
- Deck
- Exedra
- Folly
- Fountain
- Garden buildings
- Garden pond
- Garden railway
- Garden room
- Gazebo
- Gloriette
- Greenhouse
- Green wall
- Grotto
 - Shell grotto
- Ha-ha
- Hedge
- Herbaceous border
- Jeux d'eau
- Labyrinth / Maze
 - Hedge
 - Turf
- Lawn
- Monopteros
- Moon bridge
- Moon gate
- Mound
- Nymphaeum
- Orangery
- Parterre
- Patio
- Pavilion
- Pergola
- Reflecting pool
- Shed
- Stepping stones
- Stumpery
- Sylvan theater
- Terrace
- Topiary
- Trellis

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National

- [Germany](#)
- [United States](#)
- [Japan](#)
- [Czech Republic](#)
- [Israel](#)

Other

- [NARA](#)

About Grass

Redirect to:

- [Poaceae](#)

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 - **Please do not replace these redirected links** with links directly to the target page unless expressly advised to do so below or elsewhere on this page, or if the change is supported by a policy or guideline.
- **To scientific name of a plant**: This is a redirect from a **vernacular ("common") name** to the **scientific name** of a plant (or group of plants).
- **From a merge**: This is a redirect from a page that was merged into another page. This redirect was kept in order to preserve **the edit history of this page** after its content was merged into the content of the target page. Please *do not* remove the tag that generates this text (unless the need to recreate content on this page has been demonstrated) or delete this page.
 - For redirects with substantive **page histories** that *did not result from page merges* use **R with history** instead.
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 - The titles of redirects mentioned in hatnotes may refer to a subject other than that of the target page. It is possible that this redirect may need to be retargeted, or become an article under its own title (see **R with possibilities**). If the title is a good candidate for a **Wiktionary** link, it may also be added.
- **With history**: This is a redirect from a page containing **substantive page history**. This page is kept as a redirect to preserve its former content and attributions. Please *do not* remove the tag that generates this text (unless the need to recreate content on this page has been demonstrated), nor delete this page.
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About Rock N Block - Turf N Hardscapes

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Things To Do in Clark County

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Clark County Historical Museum

4.6 (147)

Driving Directions in Clark County

Driving Directions From Field 2 to

Driving Directions From Rock N Block - Turf N Hardscapes to

Driving Directions From Universal Turf Equipment to

Driving Directions From Rhino's Turf Equipment – A part of United Rentals to

Driving Directions From Festival Turf Las Vegas to

Driving Directions From Everything Turf Pros to

Driving Directions From Turf Trimmers Landscaping, Inc. to

Driving Directions From VS Turf Supply to

Driving Directions From Kellogg Zaher Soccer Complex to

Driving Directions From TURFIT LAS VEGAS to

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Driving Directions From Clark County Historical Museum to

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Reviews for Rock N Block - Turf N Hardscapes



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Terry lewis

(5)

Workers were great, no problem they did what was required, but the representative of your company mislead me on what was to be done, I showed pictures from a competitor landscaper, representative stated he could bet there , , . price, but since it wasn't in contract, I was left with uncomplicated backyard , working with owner at present, so he's been outstanding working on this situation, as amount of rock was way off and the owner did increase the amount substantially to finish the front yard. another landscaper under contract to finish the backyard. Would like to add a comment the manger/owner of Las Vegas yard n block stands behind his words and helped me tremendously on finishing up the backyard,



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Josh Bodell

(5)

Eric and team did an amazing job. They worked with me for months while I got HOA approval for the project. Once they began working they were great, going over everything in detail and making sure things were perfect. This project included wall repair, stucco and paint repair, paver and turf installation. Extremely satisfied with this experience.



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Shana Shapiro

(5)

Chris, the design consultant, Dave the production manager, along with their install team Opulent were affordable, upfront with costs, efficient and professional. Attached are some before and after pictures. Highly recommend their services.



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Dawna OgleYohe

(5)

My initial contact was with Ray, whom did an excellent job giving me an estimate on what I wanted done in my small yard and walkway., the guys that came out and did the work were superior. They did an excellent job. I'm very pleased with this company. I will highly recommend them to family and friends, and I will be using them in the near future for other little projects.

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About Rock N Block - Turf N Hardscapes

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Things To Do in Clark County

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Clark County Historical Museum

4.6 (147)

Driving Directions in Clark County

Driving Directions From NV Landscapes LLC to

Driving Directions From Ugarte Landscapes & Irrigation Repair to

Driving Directions From New horizon landscapes to

Driving Directions From Custom Touch Landscape to

Driving Directions From A and L Desert Landscapes Tree Company to

Driving Directions From Paradise Landscaping Las Vegas to

Driving Directions From Las Vegas Backyards to

Driving Directions From Delfino Maintenance & Landscaping Inc. to

Driving Directions From Rock N Block - Turf N Hardscapes to

Driving Directions From Las Vegas Tree & Landscaping to

Driving Directions From Living Water Lawn & Garden to

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Reviews for Rock N Block - Turf N Hardscapes



D. Lopez

(5)

We recently had a very positive experience with Rock N Block for our fence replacement. The entire process went smoothly and exceeded our expectations. Harvey and his team were incredibly professional and communicative throughout the project providing much-needed assurance and peace of mind. The crew was punctual and maintained a diligent and respectful attitude that made the experience pleasant. The crew finished the project ahead of schedule, and the quality of their work is impressive; our new wall looks great! We recommend Rock N Block for any fencing needs and look forward to working with them again. Thank you, Harvey and crew, for a job well done!



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Terry lewis

(5)

Workers were great, no problem they did what was required, but the representative of your company mislead me on what was to be done, I showed pictures from a competitor landscaper, representative stated he could bet there , , . price, but since it wasn't in contract, I was left with uncomplicated backyard , working with owner at present, so he's been outstanding working on this situation, as amount of rock was way off and the owner did increase the amount substantially to finish the front yard. another landscaper under contract to finish the backyard. Would like to add a comment the manger/owner of Las Vegas yard n block stands behind his words and helped me tremendously on finishing up the backyard,



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Dawna OgleYohe

(5)

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Shana Shapiro

(5)

Chris, the design consultant, Dave the production manager, along with their install team Opulent were affordable, upfront with costs, efficient and professional. Attached are some before and after pictures. Highly recommend their services.



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Josh Bodell

(5)

Eric and team did an amazing job. They worked with me for months while I got HOA approval for the project. Once they began working they were great, going over everything in detail and making sure things were perfect. This project included wall repair, stucco and paint repair, paver and turf installation. Extremely satisfied with this experience.

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water features Las Vegas [View GBP](#)

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- [landscape team Las Vegas](#)
- [landscape rocks Las Vegas](#)
- [landscape services Las Vegas](#)
- [landscape designers Las Vegas](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Does Rock N Block offer commercial artificial turf solutions?

Yes, they provide cost-effective and practical artificial turf solutions tailored for commercial properties.

Why should I hire a landscaping designer in Las Vegas?

A local landscaping designer brings specialized expertise in the region's unique climate and soil conditions. They'll recommend drought-tolerant plantings, efficient irrigation strategies, and hardscape solutions that handle desert heat. Designers also balance aesthetics and function—ensuring your yard is beautiful, water-wise, and easy to maintain. Many can help navigate homeowner association guidelines, building permits, or local rebate programs for lawn conversions. By collaborating with a professional, you avoid costly missteps like overwatering desert species or installing subpar rock without proper grading. In the end, a landscaping designer streamlines the entire process, crafting a cohesive, tailored landscape suited to Las Vegas living.

How do I keep my Las Vegas landscaping colorful year-round?

Although the desert climate can limit certain species, you can maintain color by selecting the right mix of blooms and foliage. Combine hardy flowering plants—like lantana, desert marigold, and penstemon—that produce vibrant hues in multiple seasons. Ornamental grasses can show interesting seed heads even as temperatures fluctuate. Succulents often boast colorful rosettes, and cacti yield eye-catching blooms in warmer months. Incorporate small shrubs known for extended flowering periods, such as Texas ranger, which sprouts purple blossoms after rain. Adding accent boulders or colored gravel boosts visual interest when flowers fade. Finally, consider nighttime landscape lighting to showcase silhouettes and subtle tints after dark.

How does a landscaping designer help manage HOA regulations in Las Vegas?

HOA rules can influence plant choices, hardscape styles, or yard features like fences and lighting. A knowledgeable landscaping designer understands these guidelines and ensures your plan meets all requirements, sparing you from fines or forced rework. They'll propose

water-conscious plantings and rock scapes that align with HOA standards, such as limiting turf area or adhering to approved color palettes. Designers may submit the necessary documents or drawings to the HOA for official approval. By staying current on neighborhood regulations, they streamline the design phase, so you can achieve the look you want without clashing with community expectations.

Are financing options available for installations?

For information on financing options, it's best to contact Rock N Block directly through their website.

water features Las Vegas

Landscaping Designer Las Vegas

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Company Website : <https://rocknblocklandscape.com/artificial-turf/landscaping/>

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