

How to Use a Broadcast Spreader

A broadcast or rotary spreader sprinkles its contents in a circular radius around the front and sides of the hopper. Compared to a drop spreader, it's better for large yards. Learn how to use one to apply lawn care products like granular fertilizers, grass seed, soil amendments and pesticides.

1. FILL THE HOPPER

- Follow the directions on the bag to fill the hopper with the right amount of lawn product. Fill it on the sidewalk or driveway. That way, if you spill, it won't leave a burn mark on the lawn.

2. SET THE DIAL

- The dial controls how much product your spreader distributes. Find the recommended setting for the spreader on the back of the bag of product. Set the dial on the spreader to match that number. If your model of spreader isn't included on the bag, you may find the correct setting using a Spreader Setting Calculator [visit: <https://www.lebsea.com/forms/SpreaderSettingSearch.aspx>.] on the manufacturer's website.

3. CREATE A BORDER

- Make a header strip, or border around the outside edge of the lawn. This helps prevent sprinkling the product in garden beds and walkways. If you have a broadcast spreader with an edge guard feature, set it so the spray pattern won't spill over into these areas.

4. FOLLOW THE RIGHT PATTERN

- You want to cover the lawn evenly without spreading too much product on overlapping areas. So, hold the handle lever so the product flows as you walk. As you hit those borders, shut it OFF while turning so you won't spread an extra layer of product there. Move 1-2 feet away from the previous pass, overlapping your passes, because the product goes on heavier in the center than the edge. Turn it back ON as you walk back. Follow this pattern for the rest of the lawn,

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NOTE: Always follow manufacturer's recommended safety precautions and instructions for the products you use.