How to Use a Tank Sprayer

Learn how to apply liquid lawn care products, like concentrated fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides, using a tank sprayer.

1. MIX THE SOLUTION

• Measure out the product you're using according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Pour the liquid into the tank. Add water, leaving about a third of the tank empty, so pressure can build up when you pump up the tank.

2. PRESSURIZE THE TANK

• Screw the top of the sprayer back on the tank. Pump the handle up and down until it becomes hard to push back down. Push the handle down and twist it clockwise to lock it in place.

3. ADJUST THE NOZZLE

• Rotate the tip of the nozzle to adjust the spray path to a wide spray pattern or precise stream.

4. APPLY THE PRODUCT

 Pull the trigger on the nozzle to spray the liquid. To cover a broad area, like your lawn, zigzag slowly back and forth in strips. Walk down one row, then come back alongside that row about 1-2 feet away and continue until you've covered the whole area. Wave the nozzle slowly back and forth as you walk to cover a wide strip and overlap each row.

5. REFILL THE TANK

• As you open the tank, the pressure can release and send a spray of chemicals and liquid into your face and eyes. Always tilt the opening away from your face. And, before you open the tank to refill it, open the pressure release valve if there is one.

HELPFUL TIPS:

- If you walk backward as you spray, you can avoid walking through an area as you apply the chemicals.
- Be careful not to let the overspray land in unwanted areas like your garden bed.

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