What Kind of Garden Tiller is Right for You?

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When it comes time to get your garden set up for the years planting, you might consider turning to the help of a garden tiller. Many people are accustomed to breaking up the soil by hand, but this is an inefficient way of gardening that is better left in the past.

Garden tillers come in a variety of different types. There are the manual stand up types like the Garden Weasel, and then there's more powerful choices, like electric and gasoline tillers. You should consider these more powerful models. But when shopping for one of these tillers, what type should you choose?

Some people have smaller gardens. An electric tiller/cultivator or small gas model (2 hp) is ideal for these situations. Both easy to handle and extremely lightweight, the benefits of using a small tiller far outweigh the cost in terms of what you get out of them. They don't use a lot of storage space, especially the ones with folding handles, and that's a major plus.

But what about people who have brand new soil that's never been tilled before? The ground can be extremely hard in these situations, so you're going to need a tiller with more power. An electric or small gas model won't be able to break up the soil as well as a heavy duty one.

Many people rent a heavy duty rear tine tiller and then purchase a smaller less expensive front tine tiller to maintain the soil. A front tine tiller will do just fine with soil that's already been broken up, but doesn't do so good with new soil, so keep this in mind.

Which Brands Are Best?

The following brands have proven themselves to be top dogs. Troy Bilt, Mantis, Husqvarna, Honda, Craftsman, and MTD. Basically, it comes down to what you're willing to pay. The prices vary greatly between models. You can also check out the Amazon reviews for a more in-depth look at each of the tiller brands to make choosing one easier.

There are lots of books available on the Internet that are full of helpful gardening tips. There's also free Internet pages and forums to check out. The forums are especially good for beginners to get answers to their questions from people who already garden all the time.

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