

**Ace® Rewards Spring Challenge
Official Rules**

- **NO PURCHASE IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE OF ANY KIND DOES NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING.**
- **VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW.**
- **ALL DISPUTES WILL BE RESOLVED SOLELY BY BINDING ARBITRATION AND ENTRANTS WAIVE THE ABILITY TO BRING CLAIMS IN A CLASS ACTION FORMAT.**

BY ENTERING (OR OTHERWISE PARTICIPATING IN) THE SWEEPSTAKES, YOU AGREE TO THESE OFFICIAL RULES, WHICH ARE A BINDING CONTRACT, SO READ THEM CAREFULLY BEFORE ENTERING. WITHOUT LIMITATION, THIS CONTRACT INCLUDES INDEMNITIES TO THE SWEEPSTAKES PARTIES FROM YOU AND A LIMITATION OF YOUR RIGHTS AND REMEDIES.

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** The Ace® Rewards Spring Challenge (“Sweepstakes”) is open only to legal residents of the fifty (50) United States and the District of Columbia, who are eighteen (18) years of age or older as of date of entry. Employees, owners, officers and directors of Ace Hardware Corporation (“Sponsor”), Ace Hardware® retail stores, Realtime Media LLC (“Administrator”) and each of their respective parent companies, affiliates, subsidiaries, advertising, contest, fulfillment and marketing agencies (collectively, the “Sweepstakes Parties”), their immediate family members and those living in the same household as such individuals (whether legally related or not) are not eligible to participate in the Sweepstakes, win a prize, or receive a Reward (defined below). For purposes of this Sweepstakes, immediate family members are defined as spouse, partner, parents, legal guardians, in-laws, grandparents, siblings, children and grandchildren and their respective spouses, and those living in the same household shall mean people who share the same residence at least three (3) months a year, whether legally related or not. Void where prohibited by law. All federal, state, and local laws, and regulations apply. By participating in the Sweepstakes, you unconditionally accept and agree to comply with and abide by these “Official Rules” and the decisions of Sponsor, including the interpretation of these Official Rules, administration of the Sweepstakes, selection of the winners, distribution of Rewards, and Sponsor’s exercise of discretion, which will be final, non-appealable, and binding in all respects.
2. **TIMING:** The Sweepstakes begins at or about 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time (“ET”) on April 1, 2026 and ends at 5:00 p.m. ET on May 31, 2026 (the “Sweepstakes Period”). The designated computer clock of the Sponsor is the official time-keeping device in the Sweepstakes.
3. **HOW TO ENTER THE SWEEPSTAKES:** To participate in the Sweepstakes you must first have an Ace® Rewards account. There is no cost to join Ace Rewards. When joining Ace Rewards, you agree to the Ace Rewards Program Terms found here: <https://www.acehardware.com/ace-rewards>. Some Activities (as further defined herein) require using the Ace Hardware mobile app (the “App”) on your mobile device. If you have not already downloaded and installed the App, you may do so for free via the App Store or Google Play. If you are a first-time user, you will be instructed to enter your name, address, (no P.O. Boxes), phone number, year of birth, email address, either link your existing Ace Rewards account or sign up for Ace Rewards and create a password. You may also be asked to accept the terms and conditions and save your preferences. Message and data rates may apply. Not all mobile telephone providers carry the service necessary to participate in this Sweepstakes. Consult your wireless providers’ pricing plans for pricing and data usage.

Then, during the Sweepstakes Period, you may enter the Sweepstakes using one (1) of the following two (2) methods:

- A. **Register at the Website and Complete Activities:** Visit <https://AceRewardsSpringChallenge.com> (“Website”) and complete and submit the registration form, including your full name, the email address associated with your Ace Rewards account, phone number, street address (no P.O. Boxes), city, state, and ZIP Code. Upon registration, you will access your “Dashboard” which will

track your participation. On subsequent days during the Sweepstakes Period, you may simply return to the Website and submit your email address to access your Dashboard.

The Dashboard displays six (6) available activities (each, an "Activity") to be completed during the Sweepstakes Period. Activities include: (1) attend a HomeTown Days Event (5/8 – 5/10/26 or 5/22 – 5/25/26) and make an in-store purchase of any value; (2) Purchase any outdoor leaf blower, trimmer, lawn mower, edger or chainsaw at Acehardware.com or in-store; (3) Complete one (1) in-App purchase totaling \$20 or more (after application of any rewards, discounts/coupons and/or instant savings and before tax and shipping); (4) Purchase an Ace Gift Card (\$10 or more); (5) Use the "Buy Online, Pick Up in Store" option when completing an online (Acehardware.com) or in-App purchase (order must be picked up); and/or (6) Sign up for and maintain a YardRx Yard Care subscription through at least May 31, 2026 (not available in AK or HI). See <https://www.acehardware.com/customer-service?page=subscription-terms> for YardRx program subscription terms. Additional terms and conditions may apply for an Activity and will be disclosed on the Website.

To receive one (1) entry into the Sweepstakes, you must complete at least four (4) unique Activities of the available Activities. Completion of additional Activities will not result in additional Sweepstakes entries. Your Dashboard will track your progress of Activity completion. Completed Activities may not display immediately. Please allow up to approximately two (2) weeks for Activity verification by Sponsor/display on Dashboard.

B. Free Alternate Method of Entry: To enter without making a purchase or completing Activities, legibly hand-print your full name, full mailing address (no P.O. Boxes), email address associated with your Ace Rewards account, phone number, and birth date on a plain 3x5 inch paper ("Mail-In Entry"). Mail your completed Mail-In Entry to Realtime Media, Attn: Ace Rewards Spring Challenge Entry (11743), 2460 General Armistead Ave, Suite 209, West Norriton, PA 19403. Each Mail-In Entry must be mailed separately in a hand-addressed, stamped envelope. No photocopied or mechanically reproduced Mail-In Entries will be accepted. Sponsor is not responsible for postage-due Mail-In Entries or for any incorrect or illegible data contained in any Mail-In Entry. Mail-In Entries must be postmarked no later than June 1, 2026 and received by June 6, 2026 to be eligible for the Sweepstakes. All Mail-In Entries become the property of Sponsor and will not be returned or acknowledged. If you take the steps above, you will receive one (1) entry into the Sweepstakes, subject to the limit below

The Sweepstakes Parties are not responsible for technical difficulties of any kind, or for false, incorrect, changed, incomplete or illegible contact information.

LIMIT: One (1) entry per person, regardless of method of entry. Attempts made by the same individual to earn more than the stated number of entries by using multiple or false contact information, accounts or otherwise may result in disqualification. Entries generated by a script, computer programs, macro, programmed, robotic or other automated means are void and may be disqualified. Entries that are in excess of the stated limit, incomplete, illegible, corrupted, damaged, destroyed, forged, false, lost, late or misdirected, deceptive, or otherwise not in compliance with the Official Rules may be disqualified from the Sweepstakes at Sponsor's sole and absolute discretion. Those who do not follow all instructions, provide the required information in their entry form, or abide by these Official Rules or other instructions of Sponsor may be disqualified. Entries submitted by those who do not meet the eligibility requirements (including all requirements with respect to age and residence) are void. In the event of a dispute over the identity of an entrant, entry will be deemed submitted by the registered account holder of the email address associated with the user's App login, provided that person is eligible. Any potential winner may be required to show proof of being the registered account holder.

Registered account holder is defined as the person assigned to an email address by an Internet access provider, online service provider, or other organization responsible for assigning email addresses. In the event that a dispute regarding the identity of the individual who submitted an entry cannot be resolved to Sponsor's satisfaction, the affected entry will be deemed ineligible.

4. **HOW TO RECEIVE A REWARD:** Each entrant who completes at least four (4) Activities through the Website, as set forth above, will receive a \$15 Ace bonus reward valid towards the purchase price of eligible merchandise (a "Reward"), in the form of a digital reward accessible in-App or online through your Ace Rewards account. Reward issuance is dependent upon Activity completion verification by Sponsor. Rewards are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Subject to the issuer's terms and conditions including limitations and expiration, as well as the Ace Rewards Terms and Conditions available at <https://www.acehardware.com/rewards-terms>. Limit of one (1) Reward per Ace Rewards account member during the Sweepstakes Period. Rewards will be fulfilled within eight (8) weeks from the end of the Sweepstakes Period. Rewards will only be issued to entrants who are eligible to participate in this Sweepstakes.
5. **SWEEPSTAKES DRAWING:** On or about June 22, 2026 the Administrator will conduct a random drawing to select five (5) potential winners from among all eligible entries received in accordance with these Official Rules.
6. **ODDS:** Odds of winning a prize depend on the total number of eligible entries received during the Sweepstakes Period.
7. **WINNER NOTIFICATION/PRIZE CLAIMING:** Each potential winner will be notified via email associated with their Ace Rewards account in a commercially reasonable time after the drawing. The Sweepstakes Parties are not responsible for and shall not be liable for incorrect, changed, or illegible contact information or for electronic communications that are undeliverable as a result of any form of active or passive filtering, or insufficient space in entrant's email or other account to receive messages. Sweepstakes Parties are not responsible for late, lost, intercepted, misdirected, or unsuccessful efforts to notify a potential winner. Notification is deemed to have occurred immediately upon the sending of an email. If a potential winner cannot be contacted within a reasonable time period, if a potential winner is ineligible, if any notification is returned undeliverable, or if a potential winner otherwise fails to fully comply with these Official Rules, such potential winner will forfeit that prize and an alternate winner may be selected from among all remaining eligible entries. If necessary, the process will be repeated to select up to three (3) alternates, after which the applicable prize will remain unawarded. A potential winner becomes a "winner" only after verification of eligibility by Sponsor.

No more than the stated number of prizes will be awarded. If, for any reason, more bona fide winners come forward seeking to claim prizes in excess of the number of prizes set forth in these Official Rules, the winner(s) of the advertised number of prizes available may be selected in a random drawing from among all persons making purportedly valid claims for such prize(s). Inclusion in such drawing shall be each entrant's sole and exclusive remedy under such circumstances.

8. **PRIZES/PRIZE RESTRICTIONS:** The prizes to be awarded in this Sweepstakes are:

Five (5) Prizes: Each prize is a \$250 Ace Hardware Gift Card. Subject to issuer's terms & conditions available at <https://www.acehardware.com/customer-service?page=gift-cards>. The approximate retail value ("ARV") of each prize is \$250.

Total ARV of all prizes available in the Sweepstakes is \$1,250.

Prizes are non-transferable, with no cash redemptions or substitutions except at Sponsor's sole and absolute discretion. All prize details not specified in these Official Rules will be determined in Sponsor's sole and absolute discretion. Prize details and availability are subject to change and are subject to applicable rules and restrictions. In the event that Sponsor is unable to provide a prize or prize component, the Sponsor may elect to provide winners with the approximate value of such item in cash.

or award an alternate prize of comparable or greater value. Prizes are awarded "AS IS" and without warranty of any kind, express or implied (including, without limitation, any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose). Each winner will be solely responsible for all federal, state and/or local taxes, and for any other fees or costs associated with the prize received, regardless of whether it, in whole or in part, is used. Any unclaimed prize will be forfeited. Prizes, if legitimately claimed, will be awarded. The Sweepstakes Parties are not responsible for and will not replace any lost, mutilated, or stolen prize or any prize that is undeliverable or does not reach a winner because of an incorrect or changed address. If a winner does not accept or use the entire prize, the unaccepted or unused part of the prize will be forfeited, and the Sweepstakes Parties will have no further obligation with respect to that prize or portion of the prize. Limit of one (1) prize per person. Sponsor will attempt to fulfill all properly claimed prizes within approximately four (4) to six (6) weeks after winner verification.

- 9. GENERAL:** Subject to applicable law, each winner hereby expressly grants to the Sweepstakes Parties and their respective successors, assigns, sublicensees and designees, the irrevocable right to use and publish his/her/their name, social handles, likeness (photographic or simulated), voice, biography and place of residence for all purposes, including, without limitation, advertising, marketing, promotional and publicity purposes in connection with this Sweepstakes ("Advertising"), in any and all media now or hereafter devised, worldwide, in perpetuity, without any form of notice, permission or any amount or kind of compensation, except for the awarding of the prizes to the winners. All copyright, trademark or other intellectual property rights in such Advertising shall be owned by Sponsor and/or its licensors, and each winner hereby disclaims and waives any claim of right to such Advertising. Such Advertising shall be solely under the control of Sponsor and/or its licensors, and each winner hereby waives any claim of control over the Advertising content as well as any possible claims of misuse of winner's name, likeness or voice under contract, tort, or any other theory of law. The Sweepstakes Parties do not assume any responsibility for any disruption in the Sweepstakes, including, but not limited to, the failure or interruption of any social media platform or any internet service provider. In the event there is a discrepancy or inconsistency between disclosures and other statements contained in any Sweepstakes materials and the terms and conditions of these Official Rules, these Official Rules shall prevail, govern, and control. In the event Sponsor is prevented from continuing with the Sweepstakes by any event beyond its control, including, but not limited to, fire, flood, epidemic, earthquake, explosion, labor dispute or strike, act of God or public enemy, communications or equipment failure, utility or service interruptions, riot or civil disturbance, terrorist threat or activity, war (declared or undeclared), interference with the Sweepstakes by any party, or any federal, state, or local government law, order, or regulation, order of any court or jurisdiction, or other cause not reasonably within Sponsor's control (each, a "Force Majeure" event or occurrence), Sponsor shall have the right to modify, suspend or terminate the Sweepstakes or prize. Sponsor additionally reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion to modify, suspend or terminate the Sweepstakes should causes beyond Sponsor's control corrupt or interfere with the administration, integrity, operation, security or proper play of the Sweepstakes.
- 10. CONDUCT:** The Sweepstakes Parties are not responsible for the actions of entrants in connection with the Sweepstakes, including entrants' attempts to circumvent the Official Rules or otherwise interfere with the administration, security, fairness, integrity, or proper conduct of the Sweepstakes. The Sweepstakes Parties reserve the right, at their sole discretion, to disqualify (or terminate the prize of) any individual who is found to be, or suspected of, acting in any manner deemed by the Sweepstakes Parties to be in violation of the Official Rules, or to be unsportsmanlike or disruptive, or with intent to annoy, abuse, threaten or harass any other person, or to be tampering with the entry process or the operation of the Sweepstakes, and void all associated entries and/or registrations. CAUTION: ANY ATTEMPT BY A USER, YOU OR ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL TO DAMAGE OR UNDERMINE THE LEGITIMATE OPERATION OF THE SWEEPSTAKES IS A VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAWS, AND SHOULD SUCH AN ATTEMPT BE MADE, THE SWEEPSTAKES PARTIES RESERVE THE RIGHT TO SEEK DAMAGES AND OTHER REMEDIES (INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES) FROM ANY SUCH PERSON TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

- 11. WAIVERS AND DISCLAIMERS:** The Sweepstakes Parties assume no responsibility or liability for: (a) lost, late, stolen, undelivered, inaccurate, incomplete, delayed, misdirected, damaged or garbled registrations, entries, URLs, or emails; (b) any incorrect or inaccurate entry information, or for any faulty or failed electronic data transmissions; (c) any unauthorized access to, or theft, destruction or alteration of entries or registrations at any point in the operation of this Sweepstakes; (d) any technical malfunction, failure, error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or communications line failure, regardless of cause, with regard to any equipment, systems, networks, lines, cable, satellites, servers, computers or providers utilized in any aspect of the operation of the Sweepstakes; (e) inaccessibility or unavailability of the Internet or the website or any combination thereof or for computer hardware or software malfunctions, failures or difficulties, or other errors or difficulties of any kind whether human, mechanical, electronic, computer, network, typographical, printing or otherwise relating to or in connection with the Sweepstakes, including, without limitation, errors or difficulties which may occur in connection with the administration of the Sweepstakes, the processing of entries, social networking posts, or registrations, the announcement of the prizes, or in any other Sweepstakes-related materials; or (f) any injury or damage to entrants or to any other person's computer which may be related to or resulting from any attempt to participate in the Sweepstakes. If, for any reason, the Sweepstakes (or any part thereof) is not capable of running as planned for reasons which may include, without limitation, infection by computer virus, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures, or any other causes which may corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of this Sweepstakes, then the Sweepstakes Parties reserve the right at their sole discretion to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Sweepstakes in whole or in part. If terminated, the Sweepstakes Parties will award the prizes in a random drawing from among all non-suspect, eligible entries received for the Sweepstakes up to the time of such action.
- 12. RELEASES:** All entrants, as a condition of participation in this Sweepstakes, release, discharge, indemnify and hold harmless the Sweepstakes Parties, and each of their respective directors, officers, employees, agents, successors and assigns (collectively, "Released Parties") from and against any and all liability, claims, costs (including attorneys' fees), losses, damages, fines, or actions of any kind whatsoever for injuries, death, damages, or losses to persons or property which may be sustained, in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, in connection with: (i) participation in any aspect of the Sweepstakes (including travel to/from any Sweepstakes activity), (ii) the receipt, ownership, use or misuse of the prize awarded, including any travel associated with any prize, (iii) the Released Parties' violation of rights of publicity or privacy, claims of defamation or portrayal in a false light or based on any claim of infringement of intellectual property; (iv) entrant's registration material on any related website, or (v) any typographical, human or other error in the printing, offering, selection, operation or announcement of any Sweepstakes activity and/or prize.
- 13. GOVERNING LAW AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY:** All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation and enforceability of these Official Rules or the rights and obligations of entrants, Sponsor or the Released Parties in connection with the Sweepstakes will be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of Illinois, without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law rules or provisions that would cause the application of any other laws.

BY ENTERING THE SWEEPSTAKES, ENTRANT AGREES THAT TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW: (A) ANY AND ALL DISPUTES, CLAIMS AND CAUSES OF ACTION ARISING OUT OF OR CONNECTED WITH THE SWEEPSTAKES, OR ANY PRIZE AWARDED, WILL BE RESOLVED INDIVIDUALLY, WITHOUT RESORT TO ANY FORM OF CLASS ACTION; (B) ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, JUDGMENTS AND AWARDS WILL BE LIMITED TO ACTUAL THIRD-PARTY, OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS INCURRED (IF ANY) NOT TO EXCEED TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00), BUT IN NO EVENT WILL ATTORNEYS' FEES BE AWARDED OR RECOVERABLE; (C) UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL ANY ENTRANT BE PERMITTED TO OBTAIN ANY AWARD FOR, AND ENTRANT HEREBY KNOWINGLY AND EXPRESSLY WAIVES ALL RIGHTS TO SEEK, PUNITIVE, INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL OR SPECIAL DAMAGES, LOST PROFITS AND/OR ANY OTHER DAMAGES, OTHER THAN ACTUAL OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES NOT TO EXCEED TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00), AND/OR ANY RIGHTS TO HAVE DAMAGES MULTIPLIED OR OTHERWISE

INCREASED; AND (D) ENTRANTS' REMEDIES ARE LIMITED TO A CLAIM FOR MONEY DAMAGES (IF ANY) AND ENTRANT IRREVOCABLY WAIVES ANY RIGHT TO SEEK INJUNCTIVE OR EQUITABLE RELIEF. SOME JURISDICTIONS DO NOT ALLOW THE LIMITATIONS OR EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY, SO THE ABOVE MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU.

- 14. DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** The parties each agree to finally settle all disputes only through arbitration; provided, however, the Sponsor shall be entitled to seek injunctive or equitable relief in the state and federal courts in the State of Illinois, and any other court with jurisdiction over the parties. In arbitration, there is no judge or jury, and review is limited. The arbitrator's decision and award is final and binding, with limited exceptions, and judgment on the award may be entered in any court with jurisdiction. The parties agree that, except as set forth above, any claim, suit, action or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Sweepstakes shall be resolved solely by binding arbitration before a sole arbitrator under the streamlined Arbitration Rules Procedures of JAMS Inc. ("JAMS") or any successor to JAMS. In the event JAMS is unwilling or unable to set a hearing date within fourteen (14) days of the filing of a "Demand for Arbitration", then either party can elect to have the arbitration administered by the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") or any other mutually agreeable arbitration administration service. If an in-person hearing is required, then it will take place in the State of Illinois. The federal or state law that applies to these Official Rules will also apply during the arbitration. Disputes will be arbitrated only on an individual basis and will not be consolidated with any other proceedings that involve any claims or controversy of another party, including any class actions; provided, however, if for any reason any court or arbitrator holds that this restriction is unconscionable or unenforceable, then the agreement to arbitrate doesn't apply and the dispute must be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in the State of Illinois. Sponsor agrees to pay the administrative and arbitrator's fees in order to conduct the arbitration (but specifically excluding any travel or other costs of entrant to attend the arbitration hearing). Either party may, notwithstanding this provision, bring qualifying claims in small claims court.
- 15. ENTRY INFORMATION AND SWEEPSTAKES COMMUNICATIONS:** As a condition of entering the Sweepstakes, each entrant gives consent for Sponsor to obtain and deliver his or her name, address, and other information to third parties for the purpose of administering this Sweepstakes and to comply with applicable laws, regulations, and rules. Any information entrant provides to Sponsor may be used to communicate with entrant in relation to this Sweepstakes or on a Sweepstakes winner's list. By participating in the Sweepstakes, entrant agrees to all of the terms and conditions of the Sponsor's Privacy Policy, which is available at <https://www.acehardware.com/privacy>. In the event of any discrepancy between the Sponsor's Privacy Policy and these Official Rules, these Official Rules shall control and govern.
- 16. MISCELLANEOUS:** The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of these Official Rules will not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision. In the event that any provision of the Official Rules is determined to be invalid or otherwise unenforceable or illegal, the other provisions will remain in effect and will be construed in accordance with their terms as if the invalid or illegal provision were not contained herein. Sponsor's failure to enforce any term of these Official Rules will not constitute a waiver of that provision. Entrants agree to waive any rights to claim ambiguity of these Official Rules. Headings are solely for convenience of reference and will not be deemed to affect in any manner the meaning or intent of the documents or any provision hereof. In the event there is a discrepancy or inconsistency between disclosures or other statements contained in any Sweepstakes-related materials, privacy policy or terms of use on any website, social media platform or application and/or the terms and conditions of the Official Rules, the Official Rules shall prevail, govern and control and the discrepancy will be resolved in Sponsor's sole and absolute discretion.
- 17. WINNERS LIST:** To receive a list of the winners, send a #10 self-addressed, stamped envelope for receipt by July 30, 2026 to: Ace Rewards Spring Challenge (11743) - Winners List Request, c/o Realtime Media, 2460 General Armistead Ave, Suite 209, West Norriton, PA 19403.

- 18. SPONSOR:** Ace Hardware Corporation, 2915 Jorie Blvd, Oak Brook, IL 60523. Reference to third parties in connection with the prizes and/or third-party websites or services are for reference and identification purposes only and not intended to suggest endorsement, sponsorship or affiliation with Sponsor or the Sweepstakes.
- 19. ADMINISTRATOR:** Realtime Media LLC, 2460 General Armistead Ave, Suite 209, West Norriton, PA 19403.