

PRUNING

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Pruning has been defined as removal of part of a plant to improve it

THE BENEFITS OF PRUNING

A) PRUNING DIRECTS GROWTH. . . Most trees naturally grow bigger and bigger and become too large where space is restricted. When trees grow too tall, taking out the terminal (top) shoots will direct more sap to the lateral (side) buds and the tree will induce top growth. Evergreens used as hedge material are clipped this way.

B) PRUNING IMPROVES HEALTH . . . Opening up the inside of the tree allows the air to blow through, this dries the inside of the tree much quicker so that fungus disease has no chance to get hold. Always remove broken or diseased limbs as soon as they appear, this will stop the infection from spreading to healthier branches.

C) PRUNING IMPROVES QUALITY OF FLOWERS AND FRUIT . . . Lots of branches give you lots of fruit but only small fruit. Fewer branches give less fruit but better quality (larger).

TOOLS

A) THUMB AND FOREFINGER . . . to pinch off buds or leaf tips.

B) HAND PRUNERS . . . can be used on wood 3/4" thick. There are two types - Scissor type - gives clean close cut . . . Anvil type (sharp blade and soft metal plate) crushes the bark and cannot cut as close as scissor type. *Recommended - Felco or Wilkinson*

C) LOPPING SHEARS . . . are long handled pruners, ordinary ones cut wood up to 1 1/4" - the heavy duty, double action and ratchet type clip to 1 3/4" diameter.

D) PRUNING SAWS . . . used for heavier branches 2" and up. The teeth are set different than on a carpenter saw. The pruning saw cuts on "pull" rather than on "push". Also available is a double edged saw, when using be sure not to cut the bark of nearby branches.

E) LONG HANDLE LOPPERS AND SAWS . . . cut branches 2" or smaller with the pruner and branches 2" and up with the saw. *Recommended - The lightweight aluminum extension pruner*

F) HEDGE SHEARS . . . used for shaping hedges and shearing formal shrubs. Purchase the type with a blade notch so that branches will not slip out of the blades.

G) CHAINSAWS . . . for the person who has everything - be extremely careful and NEVER cut the branch you are standing on.

H) PRUNING KNIVES . . . Handy to use to smooth rough edges after making a large cut .

I) WOOD RASP . . . used to smooth the edges of a cut or wound before pasting with tree-paint or emulsion.

ALWAYS KEEP YOUR TOOLS SHARP AND CLEAN

Take your time while pruning. Select one branch at a time, stand back and take a good look - picture in your mind what the tree would look like after you remove a branch - then cut. Always remove dead or broken branches first, then the branches that criss-cross.

When cutting a large limb . . . first remove all the wide branches - less weight - less chance of breaking branches while the cut-off branch falls down. Whenever possible, it is advisable to tie a rope to the branch being cut and attach it to a branch above - then use the three saw-cut method.

THREE-SAW CUT METHOD

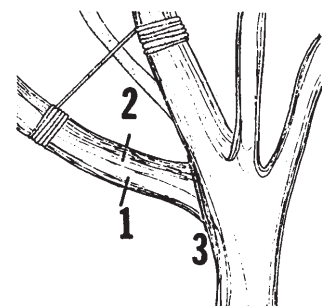
First cut at **No. 1** - this will prevent tearing of desirable bark when the branch falls. Next cut at **No. 2** then the final cut at **No. 3** as close as possible to the main stem.

On cuts larger than 1" diameter it is wise to apply tree dressing or pruning paint.

CONIFERS do not normally require pruning - but if they must be pruned, they will respond well. When Conifers reach their required height cut off all new growth in mid summer. Repeat this procedure year after year.

Never clip beyond green 'leaves' if you go further your tree will have a bare spot forever. When spreading Junipers spread too far the tips should be pinched back to keep their irregular growing habit.

DECIDUOUS SHRUBS . . . with a few exceptions, flowering shrubs



should be pruned as little as possible allowing them to grow their natural way. In most cases pruning is done to renew the shrubs.

SHRUBS

SPRING FLOWERING

Cut After flowering.

Amelanchier (Serviceberry)
Azalea Mollis
Chaenomelis (Flowering Quince)
Cotoneaster Horizontalis
Deutzia
Forsythia
Enkianthus
Kerria
Lonicera (Bush Honeysuckle)
Magnolia
Philadelphus (Mock Orange)
Ribes (Flowering Currant)
Spirea (Van Houttei)
Syringa (Lilac)
Viburnum Opulus Sterile
(Snowball)

FLOWERING EVERGREENS

That may be pruned after flowering.

Aucuba (Golddust Plant)
Azalea (Kurume)
Berberis (Julianae-Darwinii)
Camellia
Choisya (Mexican Orange)
Cytisus (Broom)
Cotoneaster
(Dammeri - Lowfast)
Erica (Heathers-
Spring blooming varieties)
Eleagnus
Hedera (Ivy)
Kalmia (Mountain Laurel)
Loecochoe
Mahonia (Oregon Grape)
Osmanthus (False Holly)
Rhododendron
Skimmia
Viburnum (Rhytidophyllus-

SUMMER FLOWERING

Prune from late summer 'til spring.

Abelia
Buddleia (Butterfly Bush)
Ceanothus (Cal: Lilac)
Euonymus
Hibiscus (Rose of Sharon)
Hydrangea
Hypericum (St. John's Wort)
Fuchsia (Hardy)
Kolkwitzia (Beauty Bush)
Lavender
Ligustrum (Privet)
Potentilla (Cinquefoil)
Rhus (Sumac)
Rhuscotinus (Smoke Tree)
Spirea (Anthony Waterer -
Froebelii)
Tamarix
Weigela

SUMMER BLOOMING EVERGREENS

That may be pruned late in fall

Calluna (Fall Flowering Var.)
Cistus (Rock Rose)
Erica (Heath)
Escallonia
Holly
Pyracantha (Firethorn)
Spartium (Spanish
Broom)
Stranvaesia
Veronica

FLOWERING EVERGREENS

To be pruned in early spring.

Fatsia
Gaultheria
Nandina
Photinia
Pernettya

Leatherleaf snowball)
Viburnum (Laurustinus)

Euonymus
Raphiolepis

CLEMATIS *Two Large Groups*

A) Varieties that bloom on old wood . . . light pruning to be done after flowering.

B) Varieties that bloom on current wood . . . prune back hard in February.

LITTLE PRUNING (A)

Bees Jubilee
Barbara Dibley
Crimson King
Blue Bird
Duchess of Edinburgh
Elsa Spath
Henryii
Horn of Plenty
Lord Neville
Mrs. Spender Castle
Montana
Nelly Moser
Ramona
Rosy O'Grady
Vivyan-Pennel

HARD PRUNING (B)

Baron Veillard
Comtesse de Bouchard
Crimson Star
Ernest Markham
Guiding Star
Gypsy Queen
Hagley Hybrid
Huldine
Jackmanii
Lady Betty Balfour
Lanuginosa Candida
Mrs. P.T. James
Rouge Cardinal
Victoria
Ville de Lyon

Most **FRUIT** and **SHADE TREES** are pruned when dormant . . .

EXCEPTIONS

MAPLES	Late summer
WALNUTS	Late summer
BIRCH	Late summer or fall
ROBINIA	Mid to late summer

Always clip on an outside eye to keep trees open in centre. Never leave stubs . . . cut as close as possible to main stem.

Remove broken and diseased branches right away, also suckers and any branches sprouting from below graft.

Cover with Tree Paint all cuts that are larger than one inch. It is advisable to cover all cuts on rosebushes.

Always save the branches with a crotch shaped like a U or L, rather than a V shape.



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