

# ROSES

## ROSES In The Home Garden

### • Roses by Class •

**MINIATURES:** Available in most colours - usually grows less than 12 inches - Most varieties hardier than Hybrid type

**HYBRID TEA:** Suitable for growing in formal rosebeds. Bears double well-shaped flowers. Blooms are born snugly or in small groups.

**FLORIBUNDA:** Bears its flowers in large clusters - Many blooms open at same time

**GRANDIFLORAS:** Taller growing 6 to 8 ft. Flower has characteristics of both Hybrid and Floribundas

**SHRUB:** Also known as Sub-Zero. Very hardy type needing no winter protection. Also grown for Rosehips.

**CLIMBERS:** Plants produce tall, stiff stems for training against walls, fences, etc. Flowers can be large or cluster type.

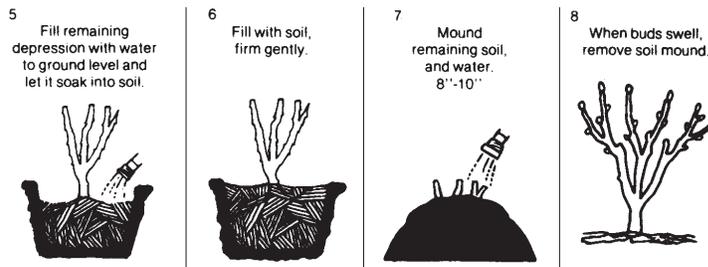
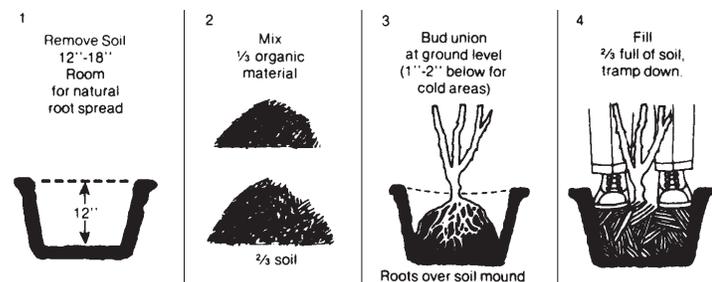
### • Planting •

#### BEFORE PLANTING

Selecting a proper area for your roses will make them easier to care for and help produce roses you will be proud to show. The major points to consider in selecting a location are:

- 1. OVERALL PLAN.** The location should fit your landscape plan.
- 2. SUN.** Roses should be planted where they will receive at least 4 to 6 hours of sun daily (for best growth) and enough early morning sun to dry foliage (to minimize mildew).
- 3. WATER.** The planting site should be close to a supply of water (if possible) for easy watering.
- 4. DRAINAGE.** The area should have good, well-drained soil. Wet spots are not desirable for roses.
- 5. OTHER PLANTS.** The location should be away from trees or shrubs that deprive the roses of sun and nourishment.
- 6. AIR CIRCULATION.** To help prevent mildew, the area should have good air movement so that foliage dries rapidly after watering or morning dew. Air circulation is also encouraged by proper spacing of plants.
- 7. BUILDINGS.** Plant away from eaves where falling ice and water would damage roses.

#### PLANTING YOUR ROSE



#### PLANTING ROSES IN POTS

Roses growing in compressed paper containers can be planted without taking the rose out. See KNAPP'S bulletin on container planting.



Leave plant in container but carefully cut hole in sides to aid in quicker decomposition



Top of root at surrounding soil level.

### • Pruning •

**WHEN TO PRUNE.** The best time of year for pruning is before new growth starts - sometime after the last killing frost of the spring. Pruning can be delayed until slightly later if weather conditions keep you out of the garden, but do not put it off too long. Once new growth is 2 to 3 inches long, it is not advisable to prune, since significant damage from breakage is sure to result.

**HOW TO PRUNE.** You may use any pruning shears designed for use on roses. A 2-inch blade gives best results. An angle cut is most desirable in pruning - the cut should be about 1/4 inch above an outside bud eye and should slant downward toward the inside of the bush at a 45-degree angle.

**WHAT TO PRUNE.** In general, prune back by about a third, leaving two-thirds of the plant to grow and furnish this year's blooms. (Climbers are an exception to this general practice - see below.) Prune out the center of the bush for free air circulation.

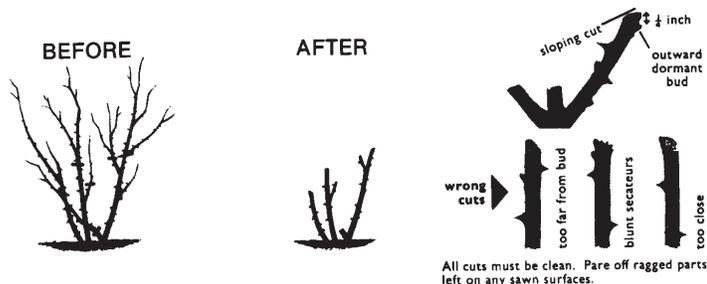
Weak or diseased canes should be removed completely. Any branch which crosses or rubs against another should also be removed. Winter damaged wood, which appears brown and lifeless on the outside, light brown and dry when cut into, should be cut off 1 to 2 inches below the winter-killed portion. Cut just above the nearest live leaf bud - a reddish purple swelling on the bark of the cane.

Floribundas in hedge form can be sheared exactly as you would any hedge, leaving two-thirds of the plant to grow.

Climbing roses are a special case. Because many climbing varieties bloom only on second-year and older wood, they should be thinned by only about

10 percent per year. Of course, dead and injured or diseased wood must be removed, but otherwise, content yourself with shortening the light wood (less than 1/2 inch in diameter) and taking out any old canes that have not been productive lately. These will usually be very large in diameter and have dry, scaly bark at the base.

Tree roses can be pruned back about half - slightly more than you would prune bush roses - in order to encourage new growth to keep the desirable compact form.



**MODERATE PRUNING.** (other name: Medium Pruning) Stems are cut back to about half of their length. Weaker than average stems should be reduced by more than this amount.

Moderate pruning is recommended for nearly all established H.T.'s growing in ordinary soils. Established Floribundas are pruned using a variation of this system.

If the roses are well cared for, you can expect exhibition-quality blooms as well as a fine garden display following the use of moderate pruning. Hard pruning is no longer considered to be essential for winning prizes.

## • Feeding Program •

Use a fertilizer especially compounded for roses. This will contain nitrogen, phosphates and potash. Along with the major elements, they should contain minor food elements such as calcium, magnesium, iron, Boron and manganese. Products such as RX.20, PLANT PROD or 6-10-4 are excellent. Roses, like most other garden plants, make heavy demands on the reserves of plant foods in the soil. If one or more of the vital elements run short, then hunger signs appear on the leaves or flowers and both vigor and display are affected.

Feeding should start at the first sign of growth and repeated every two to three weeks until mid-July. No feeding is recommended after this time.

**WATERING.** One of the blessings of the rose is its deep-rooting habit of growth. This means that watering of established plants is not usually necessary, except for bushes and standards in sandy soils and climbers growing against walls in all types of soil, during a dry summer.

The situation is, of course, different with newly-planted roses. Here the root system has not had time to develop fully. Water, and plenty of it, is necessary in all soil types during a dry spell.

When water is needed, bushes and standards will require about a gallon per plant and climbers up to 3 gallons. Water through the spout, not the rose of a watering can, held close to the ground.

## • Cultural Problems •

### Possible Causes Remedy

#### *New Roses are Slow to Start*

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| A. Inadequate irrigation after planting.  | Always keep soil moist.  |
| B. Roots have dried out before planting.  | Always soak roots in water before planting.  |
| C. Roses exposed to unseasonably warm temperatures at planting time or planted after the normal planting time for a given area. | If planting during adverse conditions, protect canes from sun with wet burlap. Another method is to mound soil around the canes, removing it as growth begins. |

#### *Leggy growth with No Flower Buds*

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| A. Inadequate sunlight. | Plant roses where they will receive 4 to 6 hours of direct sunlight a day. |
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#### *"Blindwood"*

#### *Canes produce nothing but leaves...no blooms*

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| A. Over fertilization with a high-nitrogen fertilizer or inadequate sunlight. | Reduce fertilizer application especially nitrogen. More harm is done by over fertilizing than by under fertilizing. |
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#### *"Sucker growth"*

...from below the bud union. Identification may be difficult. Sucker growth will be distinctively different from normal growth and will generally produce no flowers. The canes are small in diameter but exceptionally long. Do not confuse with the basal growth of the variety which comes from above the bud union.

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| A. Winter kill of the varietal top in cold areas. | Using a sharp knife, remove sucker growth where it joins the main portion of the plant. Be certain to remove all of it. |
| B. Roses have not been maintained properly.       |   |

**OFF COLOUR BLOOMS.** Off-colour blooming of roses is a temporary condition and can be caused by several things. New plants blooming for the first time are more apt to be affected. These plants occasionally are not sufficiently developed or established in the soil to produce proper blooms.



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