



Roses

Growing tips for success



REQUIREMENTS:

Roses require a well-drained, medium loam, slightly acidic soil. The location site should have full sun exposure (minimum of 5 hours) and plenty of air circulation, but avoid windy sites.

Prepare raised beds and mix organic matter, such as peat moss and compost approximately 12 inches deep, to improve the soil's drainage and aeration.

PLANTING:

- 1) Dig a hole several inches wider and deeper than the pot that the rose is growing in.
- 2) Trim the fiber-pot rim so that it is below soil level in the pot. (Roses grown in plastic pots should be removed from the pot before planting!)
- 3) Set the pot or root ball in the hole so that the bud union is 1 to 2 inches below the soil level. Backfill with amended soil and water well to settle the soil. Then mulch the rose bed to retain moisture.

WATERING:

ROSES SHOULD RECEIVE THE EQUIVALENT OF 1" OF RAIN A WEEK FROM THE SPRING THROUGHOUT THE FALL.

In the early spring, water from overhead to prevent the canes from drying out. After the foliage appears, apply water directly to the soil. Keeping water off the leaves helps to prevent foliar diseases, such as black spot.

PEST CONTROL:

Roses' susceptibility to disease, such as black spot or powdery mildew, differs from variety to variety. Good cultural practices and proper care are the first defenses to minimize injury from disease and insects. Follow our guidelines on preparing the soil, planting, watering, fertilizing, and pruning roses. When chemical controls are necessary, please consult our nursery personnel to find the proper product for your situation.

PRUNING:

Objectives: Remove dead and crossed canes. Shape and thin for good air circulation, and to encourage flower production.

- Heavy pruning is done early to mid-April, not in the fall.
- Use sharp, strong pruning shears that leave no ragged edges.
- Cut no more than 1/4" above a bud at 45° angle.
- Cut out all deadwood and diseased stems. All thin, crossed, and weak stems should be removed. Only healthy stems should now remain. Now continue to prune according to the type of rose. Please refer to the chart below for specific details.

PRUNING TECHNIQUES

TYPE OF ROSE	NEWLY PLANTED	ESTABLISHED
Hybrid Tea	(12 months or less) Prune 4-6" from the ground. This helps to stimulate fresh shoots close to the plant's base.	(More than 12 months) Cut healthy stems to half their length, 12 to 24" in height.
Floribunda	Prune 6" from the ground.	Old stems should be extremely cut back to just a few inches from the base. Prune new stems to shape.
Miniature	No pruning required.	Cut healthy stems to half their length.
Shrub & Rugosa	No pruning required.	Trim to shape. Remove no more than 1/3 of growth.
Climber	No pruning required.	Remove the dead wood and withered shoot tips.

FERTILIZING:

Maintain a regular fertilizing program during the months of May through August, and a last application in late fall after a killing frost. You may select either a granular or liquid fertilizer. Please apply the fertilizer according to the manufacturer's label and directions. Liquid fertilizers will need to be applied more frequently than granular fertilizers.

DISBUDDING:

Many Hybrid Teas produce more than one flower bud at the end of each shoot. If you want extremely large flower specimens, you will need to remove the side buds by nipping them out with your thumb and finger as soon as they are visible. This procedure, known as disbudding, allows the stronger terminal bud to develop to its maximum size.

DEADHEADING:

The removal of dead blooms is an important task of Floribundas and Hybrid Teas. When the flowers fade, it is recommended to cut the stem just above the second or third leaf down. Energy will then be converted to new flower shoot production.

WINTER PROTECTION:

Protect your roses from winter elements - cold temperatures, drying winds, extreme temperature fluctuations - to achieve continued success year after year. Strong, healthy roses have better chances of winter survival than weak, stressed plants. Follow our guidelines for site selection, soil preparation, planting, and seasonal care. Remember to water as needed throughout the fall and avoid fertilizer with nitrogen in late summer and early fall as plants enter dormancy. Prepare your roses for winter after killing frosts but before soil freezes, which in central Ohio is usually late November to mid-December. Here are some guidelines for different rose types:

Hybrid Teas, Grandifloras, Floribundas, Miniatures:

Prune tall canes back to 30-36 inches to avoid wind and ice damage. Clean up leaf debris around plants. Mound soil, mulch, sawdust, wood chips or a combination over center of the bush 12-18 inches. You can also use collars or cylinders made of rigid plastic, wire mesh, or burlap stretched around stakes surrounding each plant, then packed with soil or mulch. Rose cones made of waxed cardboard filled with mulch are another alternative.

(Anchor cone with a stone or sod pins. Make certain top of cone is open to allow for air circulation.) Remove protective covers, soil, and mulch from around roses when severe winter weather has passed, usually early to mid April in central Ohio. Leave 2 or less inches of mulch around bushes, if desired.

Shrubs and Rugosas:

Prepare these roses as described for hybrid teas in the first season as they will be newly established. In following winters, minimal or no protection should be necessary (unless in extremely exposed, harsh site), as the majority of these roses are very cold hardy.

Antiques and English:

Cold hardiness depends upon variety. Protect these roses as described for hybrid teas in first winter and consult our rose experts for further advice.

Climbers and Ramblers:

Require minimal protection, as most varieties Oakland Nursery offers are cold hardy for our area (Zone 5) and will weather through average winters with acceptable injury. Mound soil or mulch at base of plant 12-18 inches. For tender varieties in exposed sites, protect canes from damage of desiccating, drying winds by wrapping in layers of burlap, frost cloth (no plastic) over canes. Pack straw, leaves, etc., inside covering for added protection.

Tree (Standard) Roses:

When grown in the ground-

1. Bury entire plant with soil and mulch. To do this, dig up one half of root system and bend the plant over into a trench deep and large enough to accommodate the whole tree. Cover all parts completely with soil and mulch.
2. When site does not allow space for horizontal burying, carefully dig up entire plant and bury in trench as described above in other area, such as vegetable garden, annual bed. Replant rose in desired site in April.

When grown in containers-

After killing frost, leave rose unpruned and move inside unheated garage or shed in warmest spot. Water just enough to keep soil moist, not wet or soggy. Temperatures of 15°F or lower for extended period can damage plant. Temperature range of 25-45°F is optimal for maintaining dormancy. Move outdoors after threat of freeze has passed (approximately mid-April) and prune when plant first breaks dormancy. Follow this method for all types of roses grown in containers.

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