











GROWING GORGEOUS ROSES

Roses have long been prized for their beauty and fragrance. They can be used to create any style or mood of planting and can be selected to suit almost any situation in the garden. There are vast numbers of rose cultivars available. To make your choices easier you may want to purchase a book on roses (we have several very good ones). We also have a book available for you to look at which lists all the roses we carry and has color pictures with descriptions of each. Each year several roses are selected by the American Rose Society as exceptional new varieties (which we always carry), so leave room in your garden to add a few roses now and then!

TYPE OF ROSE	PICTURE	MATURE SIZE	CHARACTERISTICS
Miniature		2' tall or less	Small flowers, very hardy, great for containers.
Ground Cover		18" x 3-5' wide	Easy care - little pruning needed, disease resistant.
Hybrid Tea		3-4 & 1/2' tall	Most popular, largest flowers on long stems.
Old Fashioned		4-7' tall	Blooms usually single, very hardy.
Floribunda		2-3' tall	Smaller flowers than Hybrid Teas, but with more.
Grandiflora		3-6' or more	Usually large flowers.
Hedge		Depends on trimming	Dense habit, can be trimmed as hedge, easy care.
Tree Roses		Depends on variety	Grafted onto a stem, great for containers (protected area for winter).
Climbing		8-15' tall	Blooms small or large according to variety.
David Austin English		6-8' tall	Double cupped center blooms, very fragrant.

SELECTING: Always start with strong, healthy, well branched plants. Our roses are already started for you in a high quality soil mix in 3-5 gallon containers. Our roses are either Grade #1 or 1 & 1/2 which 1

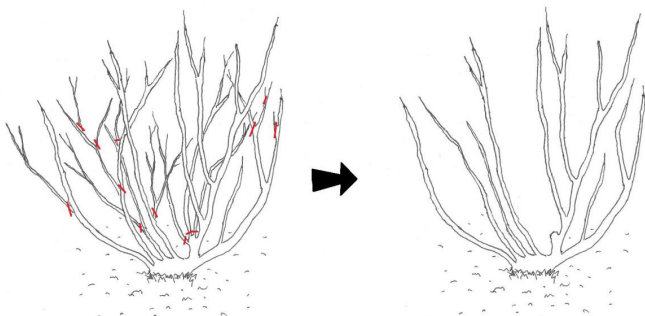
means that they have sturdy canes and will produce a stronger plant more quickly than lower grade roses. They also do not have wax coating on their canes; when rose canes are wax coated and we have a hot day or two the canes can burn up before the wax can melt.

PLANTING / WATERING: Ask for our Care Sheet on Planting Trees and Shrubs if planting established roses. Roses need a soil enriched with organic matter. Use 1/3 composted steer manure, soil pep or Happy Frog Soil Conditioner to 2/3 native soil (or you can use sphagnum peat moss in all but clay soils) and mix thoroughly. Roses need deep watering once or twice weekly during the growing season depending on your soil and temperature. Water early in the morning so leaves have time to dry before evening. Use 3" of shredded bark on top of soil to help retain moisture and control weeds.

FERTILIZATION: Roses are heavy feeders. Use systemic rose food monthly April-August. In addition to this roses enjoy foliar feedings. Spray Fertilome Blooming and Rooting on the leaves (or use a sprinkling can) every couple of weeks during the growing season. Using a small amount (1/4 teas to each gallon of fertilizer solution) of liquid dish detergent (Ivory or Palmolive) will help the leaves more easily absorb the fertilizer and will also provide some insect and disease control.

INSECTS & DISEASES: We recommend using systemic rose food because in addition to fertilizer it contains an insecticide which will control most insects. Inspect your plants often so that you can catch problems early and remember that healthy plants are less susceptible to pests. Insects that commonly attack roses include aphids, thrips and mites. Aphids cluster mainly on new growth, thrips cause brown spots on buds, and mites (not a true insect) are generally on the undersides of leaves and cause yellowing and then browning of the foliage. For aphids and thrips you can use Orthene, Malathion, Cygon, or Insecticidal Soap. Mites are hard to control; a miticide such as Kelthane is probably your best bet. Rose cane borers, which bore into the ends of pruned canes, will leave your rose canes alone if you simply put a big dab of white glue on the ends of canes when you prune. Roses are susceptible to powdery mildew (white, powdery substance that deforms leaves and buds) and less commonly black spot and rust. The first line of defense is not to crowd the plants so that air can circulate around them and the next is to water in the morning. We do carry several fungicides which will control these diseases: Fungi-Fighter, Liquid Fungicide, Blackspot & Powdery Mildew Control and a couple of others. Also destroy fallen foliage (don't compost it) in the fall so the disease spores can't overwinter and cause problems the next season.

PRUNING: Pruning is an important part of rose care. In spring (late March is best) prune out all dead canes to their base and any weak or crossing canes. Cut at an angle and use sharp shears. Cut good canes 1" above an outward facing bud. Usually you can prune Hybrid Teas and Floribundas to about 12-18"; the larger roses higher, and the minis shorter. David Austin roses shouldn't be pruned the first two years except for dead canes and then pruned to 3' the third year and not quite so severely succeeding years. Climbing roses should also not be pruned the first couple of years (again, except for dead canes) and thereafter sparingly (you can thin out 1/3 of longest canes) as some bloom on old canes.



After flowers have faded prune canes back to 1" above a 5 leaflet leaf. Don't prune after August to let the plant harden off and get ready for winter. If you want to harvest the rose hips (seed pods) on Old Fashioned roses don't prune after bloom at all. After your roses have lost their leaves and gone dormant prune Hybrid Teas, Floribundas and Grandifloras to about 24" to reduce breakage from wind and snow over the winter.

WINTER PROTECTION: Hybrid Teas, Grandifloras and Floribundas will benefit from some winter protection. Using 3" of mulch will help protect them and you can use rose collars; simply set them around plants and fill loosely with leaves or bark. Do not put the collars around the roses until late fall after you have done your final pruning and remove them the first of March.

CUTTING & DRYING: Roses dry beautifully for use either in arrangements or for potpourri; ask for our Dried Flowers Care Sheet. We also carry several wonderful books with great ideas in this area. When cutting roses for fresh arrangements, cut the stems with a knife (don't use scissors) under water at a sharp angle. This will keep the stems from sealing over so they can continue to take up water. Use a floral preservative. Cut buds or slightly opened blooms early in the morning. If the size of the arrangement will allow, put it in your refrigerator overnight. Change the water every 3 days and recut the stems at this time. By following these steps your roses will stay beautiful for a week.



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