

Roses

CARE GUIDE



Queen of flowers and symbol of love, the rose is the most popular and versatile shrub in the world. Roses are robust and easy to grow and with a little extra care the rewards are boundless.



Position

Full sun. Plant in well-drained, composted soil. The best time to transplant rose bushes is May and June. The best time to plant one is now!



Feeding:

Feed with a balanced rose fertiliser according to the recommended dosage:

Jan - Mar: Fertilise once a month.

Apr - May: Fertilise once a month in warm areas only.

June: Fertilise only in subtropical areas.

July - Aug: Feed after pruning. Spread a layer of compost onto beds.

Sept - Dec: Fertilise once a month.

IMPORTANT: Always water well after fertilising to avoid burning the plant.



Watering:

Unless it rains sufficiently, the following watering programme should be followed. .

Late spring and summer watering:

Water deeply 3 times per week
(approx 15 litres per week)

Early spring and autumn watering:

Water twice per week
(approx 10 litres per week)

Winter watering:

Water once a week
(approx 5 litres per week)

Adhere to water restrictions at all times



Mulching:

Roses are shallow rooted and need a thick layer of mulch spread around the bushes in August. Keep the stems of the roses free from mulch. Renew regularly. Non-invasive groundcovers with the same watering requirements can also be planted as living mulch. Try Erigeron, Alyssum or Forget-me-Nots. Catnip, Thyme, Pennyroyal and Nasturtiums will help to deter pests.

**Care:**

Insects and fungi can be a problem at certain times of the year but can be controlled by following a preventative programme:

Jan - Apr: Spray fortnightly against black spot, chafer and other beetles and bollworm with either a 'cocktail' of fungicide and insecticide or a product that contains both. Check for red spider mite.

May & June: Spray fortnightly with a fungicide against black spot, if needed. This is mostly relevant to winter rainfall areas.

July & Aug: Spray bare stems after pruning with fungicide and insecticide to kill insect eggs and fungus spores.

Sept - Dec: Spray fortnightly against black spot, powdery mildew, chafer and other beetles and bollworm with either a 'cocktail' of fungicide and insecticide or a product that contains both. Check for red spider mite.



Be Kind: Consider other beneficial insects and birds and use an organic product for the preventative programme.



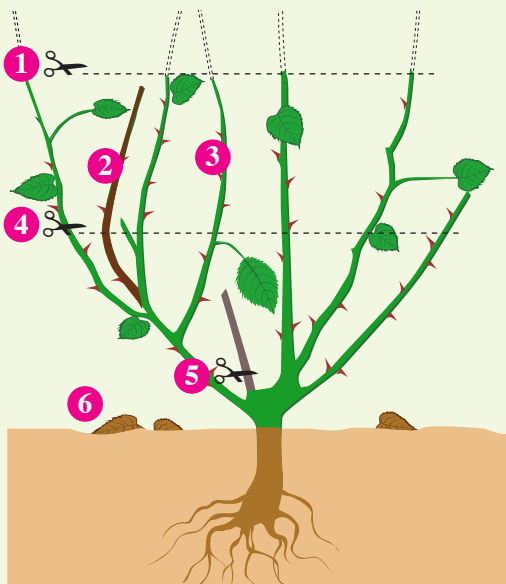


Pruning:

The best time for pruning is late July / early August to stimulate new growth and prolific flowering.

PRUNING IN 6 EASY STEPS

Hybrid Tea, Floribunda & Bush Roses



- 1.** Cut bush back to hip height (70-90cm)
- 2.** Remove dead, damaged & spindly branches at their bases.
- 3.** Remove criss-crossing branches that cross centre of plant to create an open 'vase' shape.
- 4.** Cut remaining branches to knee height (± 50 cm)
- 5.** Remove older stems (these will be greyer and their texture rougher) at the base of the bush, retaining about 4 strong stems arranged in a cup shape. Cut any side branches & forks on these stems.
- 6.** Remove all leaves and spray plant with a fungicide and insecticide cocktail.

Pruning Climbing Roses

- 1.** Remove older branches from the inside of the plant.
- 2.** Annual shoots should be left intact and tied in a horizontal line along trellising or support.

A light pruning can be carried out in January to encourage another flush of flowers. Keep deadheading your rose bushes throughout the year to encourage flowering.

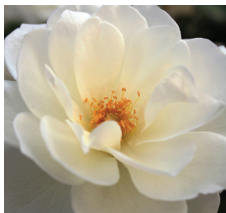
ROSE VARIETIES



Hybrid Tea:

The most commonly grown rose. Large well-shaped blooms on strong stems. Bushes branch from the base. (90cm -2.3m tall)

eg. 'Black Madonna'



Floribunda Roses:

Continuous free flowering clusters of blooms. New cultivars have more shapely buds and blooms.

eg. 'Iceberg Rose'



Miniature Roses:

A better shape of bud and an abundance of blooms in a wide range of colours. Very suitable for container growing and as edging plants. (20cm – 80cm tall)

eg. 'Gee Gee'



Climbing / Rambling:

Produce long, climbing shoots that need to be supported against a wall, trellis or pergola. Flowers repeatedly.

eg. 'Gold Bunny'



Antico Moderno™

Modern roses with old fashioned flower shapes. Very similar to hybrid teas in growth and habit, but petals are firm and extremely long lasting on the bush and in arrangements.

eg. 'Elisabeth Rose'



Fairy Tale™

These varieties have a dense, shrubby growth habit. They flower freely and continuously with blooms of an interesting shape in a range of colours. Again, a modern hybrid reminiscent of old fashioned roses.

eg. 'McHardy'

RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS

INSECTICIDES

- Ludwig's Insect Spray
- Biogrow Bioneem
- Biogrow Pyrol
- Margaret Roberts Organic Insecticide
- Efekto Eco Insect Control

FUNGICIDES

- Ludwig's Copper Count
- Biogrow Copper Soap
- Margaret Roberts Organic Fungicide
- Efekto Eco Fungimite (also combats redspidermite)

FERTILISERS

- Ludwig's Vigorosa 5:1:5 (25)
- Fertibed 3:1:5 (5)
- Vita Fruit & Flower 3:1:5 (18)
- Atlantic Fruit & Flower
- Starke Ayres Organic 3:1:5 (15)



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