

# Roses

## Shrub Roses

- Among the easiest to grow; great when low maintenance is desired
- Heights vary from 18 inches to 5 feet, depending on variety
- Are bushy and are among the most vigorous, hardiest and most disease and insect-resistant roses
- Very drought-tolerant once established
- Use as flowering shrubs or groundcover
- Not fussy about pruning; can be periodically sheared back and will return with a profusion of colorful blooms a short time later
  - Provide continuous color

## Miniature Roses

- Are small in stature, ranging from several inches to little more than a foot.
- Exhibit blooms, stems and leaves that are equally dwarf
- Are continuous bloomers
- Often grown as potted plants indoors that are transferred to the outdoors for summer, although most are winter-hardy

## Tree Roses

- Also known as standards
- These are a novelty created by using grafting and pruning techniques
  - Have tall, sturdy trunks with the bush grafted on top
  - Can be grown in the ground or in a container
  - Requirements and characteristics depend on the type or class of the graft on the top



We have everything you need to be successful with your roses.

## Shopping List:

- Pruning Shears
- Rose Gloves
- Bone Meal
- Peat Moss
- Soaker Hose
- Shovel
- Rose-tone*<sup>TM</sup> Fertilizer

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# All About Roses

Successfully Growing Roses in Your Garden



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# Growing

Nothing else in the garden quite matches the beauty and elegance of roses. Many home gardeners can't resist and enthusiastically grow them successfully year after year.

## Hybrid Teas

- Produce large, often fragrant, blooms, some form small clusters on a stem; desirable for cut flowers
- Repeat-bloomers that provide an array of color all season long
- Tall-growing (3-5 feet)

## Floribundas

- Bear clusters of smaller blooms on compact plants (usually 4 feet and under)
- Many are fragrant
- Repeat-blooming, providing season-long color
- Useful where masses of colorful blooms are valued in the landscape
- Likely to be more hardy and disease-resistant than hybrid teas

## Grandiflora

- Smaller blooms in clusters on tall plants
- A cross between hybrid teas and floribundas, these exhibit similar size, hardiness and disease-resistance characteristics of either parent

## Climbing Roses

- Includes many kinds that grow long canes requiring trellises, fencing or other support
- Include ramblers, climbing hybrid teas, polyanthas, floribundas, ever-blooming climbers and trailing roses

## Planting Roses

Ready-to-plant, bare root roses sold in cardboard boxes or plastic bags can be planted as soon as they are available in March, April or later. Roses grown in containers can be planted right away in the spring, summer or fall.

### Where to Plant

Use roses anywhere there's a sunny spot and you want fabulous, season-long color. Consider using them in flowerbeds, with shrubs in the landscape or even in containers on decks and patios or at entryways and on steps.

- Roses grow best in an open, sunny location with rich, well-drained soil.
- The pH of the soil should be near-neutral (6.5 – 7.0); we can test your soil for free to determine if lime is needed.
- If possible, roses should not be planted where

*Look for the new Knock-Out® series, considered to be some of the best roses to hit the market in years. They are non-stop bloomers from spring through frost, disease resistant and drought tolerant; they're available in red, several pinks, yellow and double reds and pinks.*



- their roots will compete with roots from large trees and shrubs.
- Provide plenty of space between individual rose plants and other plants or structures to ensure good air circulation and sunlight exposure.

### How to Plant

1. Dig a hole the same depth as the soil level in the container, making sure the top of the roots will be slightly below the surrounding soil level.
  - The hole should be twice the width of the root mass or container.
  - Mix into the soil taken out of the hole 1 part peat moss or compost to 3 parts soil and 1 cup of bone meal; add lime if needed.

2. If the plant is in a cardboard box or plastic bag, remove it.

- Build a small mound or pyramid of soil in the bottom of the hole.
- Carefully spread roots over the mound making sure the top of the root cluster begins barely below the surface – it's better to plant shallow than too deep.

3. Plants in plastic pots/containers should be removed and placed in the bottom of the hole, making sure the top of the soil of the pot is level with the surrounding ground level.

4. Fill the remaining space in the hole with soil and firm the soil around the plant,

eliminating air pockets.

5. Around the plant, apply 2-3 inches of organic mulch (bark, wood chips, etc).

6. Water thoroughly at the time of planting.

- Frequent, deep watering for the first few weeks will ensure the rose will take and thrive.
- After a month or so, water deeply once a week, or as needed depending on rainfall, throughout the rest of the growing season.

## Caring for Roses

1. **Fertilize** with *Rose-tone™* or a complete fertilizer like 5-10-5 every 4-6 weeks beginning in March, making a last application by mid-September.

2. **Water** newly planted roses frequently and deeply the first few weeks; after that, normal rainfall is usually sufficient. During hot, dry summer weather or drought, water deeply (several gallons per plant) each week. Avoid wetting foliage and flowers with overhead watering as much as possible to minimize disease and insect pests. Use drip or trickle irrigation (soaker hose) or hand watering to direct the water toward roots and away from tops of plants.

3. **Pest Control** – The most common diseases and insect problems on roses can easily be prevented and controlled with occasional applications of chemical, organic and least-toxic alternative pest control methods. Stop by for advice for the safest and most effective problem solver for your needs; bring in samples for an accurate diagnosis and recommendation.

4. **Pruning** – Usually done several times a season when needed.

- a. Make clean cuts at a slight angle just above (1/4 inch) an outward facing bud or where a leaf is or was attached (node).
- b. Remove dead branches.
- c. Remove crossing and rubbing branches.
- d. Remove old, weak canes.
- e. Constantly check (weekly or more often) for and remove dead (faded) flowers.
- f. Maintain an open center to improve and maintain good air circulation.

5. **Winterizing**

- a. Rake up fallen leaves from around the plant.
- b. Mound up mulch (or soil) around the bottom third of the plant. *Important – Pull this mulch or soil back and away in the spring as new growth begins.*
- c. Prune back the branches to the main canes.
- d. Climbing roses require little if any pruning. Cut back long, unruly shoots (whips).
- e. For extra winter protection, spray rose canes in late November with an anti-transpirant spray such as *Wilt-Stop™*. Grafted tree roses may need to be laid down and mulched over or moved to a shed or garage for proper protection. Speak to our staff for advice on tree roses.

