

All About Roses

Successfully Growing Roses in Your Garden

Nothing else in the garden quite matches the beauty and elegance of roses. There are many different types to choose from, offering an array of colors, fragrances, bloom sizes and plant shapes.

Types of Roses

Hybrid Tea



- Produce large, often fragrant blooms, good for cutting
- Repeat bloomers provide an array of color all season
- Grows 3-5 ft. tall

Floribunda



- Large clusters of small, sometimes fragrant blooms in single stems
- Repeat bloomers provide an array of color all season
- Grows up to 4 ft. tall

Miniature Roses



- Blooms, stems and leaves are equally dwarfed
- Continuous bloomer
- Grow less than 1 ft. tall
- Often used in planters

Tree Roses



- Also known as standards
- They are a novelty, created by using grafting and pruning techniques
- Grow in the ground or in a container
- Requirements and characteristics depend on the type of rose

Shrub Roses



- Among the easiest to grow; great where low maintenance is desired
- Repeat bloomers that provide an array of color all season
- Not fussy about pruning, can be sheared back as needed
- Hardy, disease resistant and drought tolerant once established

Grandiflora



- Large, showy flowers develop in clusters on long, sturdy stems
- Repeat bloomers provide an array of color all season
- Grows 3-4 ft. tall

Climbing Roses



- Large, graceful flowers appear on long canes
- Blooms repeat, typically once in late spring and once in mid to late summer
- Frequently trained to grow on trellis, fence, wall or over arches



Planting Roses

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

For complete planting instructions, please view our trifold, "How to Plant".

Where to Plant

Place roses in any sunny spot for fabulous, season-long color. Perfect for flower beds, with shrubs in the landscape or in containers on decks, patios and entryways.

- 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.
- Provide plenty of space between individual rose plants and structures to ensure good air circulation and sunlight exposure.

Caring for Roses

Fertilize with a complete fertilizer such as Espoma Rose-tone® beginning in March, making the last application by mid-September.

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 each week. Avoid overhead watering as much as possible to minimize disease and insect issues. Use a soaker hose or hand water at the base of the plant.

Pest Control - The most common disease and insect problems can often be easily prevented and controlled. Please visit the Garden Care Information Desk for identification and advice; samples should be brought in sealed plastic bags.

Pruning can be done several times a season as needed:

- Make clean cuts at a slight angle just ¼" above an outward facing bud or where a leaf is or was attached (node).
- Remove dead branches.
- Remove crossing and rubbing branches.
- Remove old, weak canes.
- Encourage growth by removing faded and dead flowers often.
- Maintain an open center to improve and maintain good air circulation.

Shopping List

Pruning shears

Gloves

Bone Meal

Peat Moss

Soaker Hose

Shovel

Espoma Rose-tone® fertilizer



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