

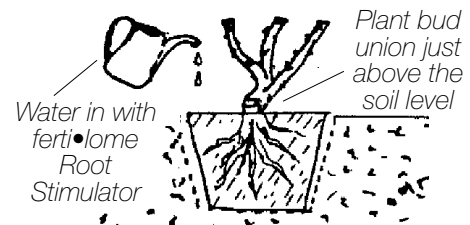


Rose Care

PLANTING—Select a site that receives at least six hours of sunlight each day. Don't crowd your roses. Good air circulation helps prevent disease. Remember that other shrubs and trees will compete with roses for light, water and nutrients. Roses do best in well-drained soil that is slightly acidic (pH of 6.0 to 6.5).

Hi-Yield Soil Sulphur is recommended to lower the pH.

Improve the condition of your soil by mixing **Gard'n-Wise Cotton Boll Compost** into the planting hole. Cotton Boll is 100% organic compost that improves poor soil immediately by restoring vital organic matter and humus. It increases moisture-holding capacity of sandy soils and is unsurpassed at breaking up clay soils. Cotton Boll Compost is acidified and adds beneficial microorganisms to the soil. Immediately after planting, water in your roses with **ferti•lome Root Stimulator**. Repeat at least two times (more is OK) at weekly intervals.



Mix Gard'n-Wise Cotton Boll Compost into the soil at planting time.

FEEDING—Roses need regular fertilizer applications. Start feeding roses on April 1 and continue through September 1.

We recommend monthly feedings with a granular fertilizer such as **ferti•lome Rose Food**. To protect roses from insects while providing a balanced fertilizer, use **Bayer Advanced 2-in-1 Systemic Rose and Flower Care**.

To enhance blooming, use a water soluble fertilizer such as **ferti•lome Blooming & Rooting** or **Daniels Plant Food** between the monthly granular feedings.

WATERING—Roses need plenty of water (1-2" of rainfall or its equivalent each week). On the other hand, roses must have a well-drained soil and won't tolerate standing in water. To prevent disease, keep water off the foliage. Sprinklers are not good for roses. Soaker hoses are better, but drip irrigation is best for roses.

MULCH—After the soil warms up in early June, add mulch around the base of your roses. This helps prevent weeds and the spread of disease. It also helps retain soil moisture and keeps the root zone of the plant cooler during our hot Kansas summers. Use any organic mulch such as cottonseed hulls, cedar mulch, cypress mulch, Cotton Boll Compost, etc. In early fall, remove the summer mulch to allow the soil to cool.

After we've had several hard freezes (around Thanksgiving) it's time to add winter mulch. The goal is to keep the ground frozen to avoid a freeze/thaw cycle. Many methods are used, including rose collars or wire cages filled with organic mulch. Protect the plant at least 12" above the ground at the graft union. For more information, see our "Winterize Your Roses" handout. Don't remove your protection too early in the spring. Depending on the weather, remove winter mulch in early to mid April. "Shrub" roses or "landscape" roses are not grafted and do not need winter protection up to 12" but it is still a good idea to mulch around the base of these plant just like with other shrubs.

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PESTS—Roses may be attacked by fungus and insects. The best control is to take preventative steps. For disease control, apply **ferti•lome Liquid Systemic Fungicide with Banner**.

To protect against insects, apply **Bayer Advanced 2-in-1 Systemic Rose and Flower Care** to systemically control insects while providing a balanced fertilizer.

Or try **Bayer All-in-One Rose & Flower Care** with three systemic products in one. It feeds your roses while it protects against insects and diseases for up to six weeks. Just mix it in a watering can and pour at the base of the plant.

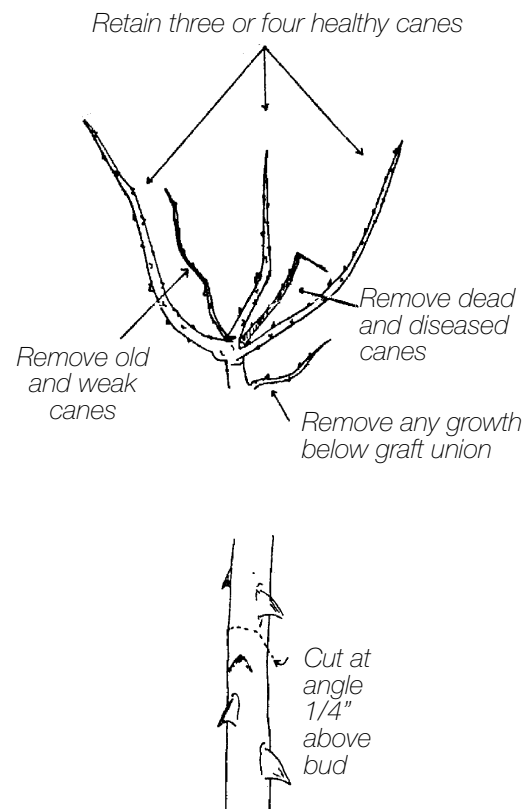
For natural insect control, choose from **Insecticidal Soap** and **Bacillus Thuringiensis**. Natural fungus controls include **Dusting Sulphur** and **Copper Fungicide**.

PRUNING—Whatever type of rose you have, pruning is beneficial. Prune most roses in early spring just before budbreak. This allows you to tell where winter damage has taken place. Remove any suckers (canes coming from below the graft union), then remove any damaged, dead or diseased wood. Select three or four healthy canes of younger wood, keeping in mind the shape of the bush after pruning. Remove other weaker and older canes. Next, prune back the canes being saved to a length of 8" to 12" making the cut above an outside bud.

Shrub roses may be pruned in early spring. Again, cut back any dead or diseased canes and then prune for shape and size, preferring to leave young healthy canes and pruning away older canes.

Climbing roses should be pruned only AFTER blooming in the spring, otherwise you're cutting off this year's flowers. Climbing roses don't need to be cut back as much as other roses, but should have dead, damaged or diseased canes and suckers removed.

To keep roses blooming, remove spent blossoms as soon as possible. Stop deadheading about September 1 to allow roses to go dormant which will reduce winter kill. In general, shrub roses do not need deadheading but will benefit from pruning to keep them in shape



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