

HOW TO GROW ROSES

Roses are perennial shrubs in the Rosaceae family which are native to the temperate regions of the Northern Hemisphere. These beautiful flowers are multi-colored and are quite aromatic which have around 13,000 rose varieties to date. Roses are grouped into the 3 main categories: wild rose, modern garden rose, and old garden rose. Depending on the rose species, rose shrubs may bloom several times or once a year. Different species also produce different sizes ranging from small compact bushes to large climbing roses. Most of them are medium-sized shrubs that produce multitude of showy flowers.

One of the most popular choice of flowers on special occasions like Valentine's Day and wedding anniversaries, roses are iconic symbols of love and romance. Cultivating your own rose garden at home is definitely a worthy project to indulge in.

Planting Procedure:

Step 1: Preparing to Plant

A. Choose rose varieties that are suitable in your region. You may also take into consideration the specific rose characteristics you are looking for such as color and size.

B. Select between purchasing bare root or young roses in pot which can be sourced at the local garden centre. Generally, bare root roses are best planted in early spring. In winter, you may keep potted roses indoors and take it outside once spring comes.

C. Prepare some gardening supplies such as gardening gloves, fertilizer, mulch, compost or rose planting mix, pruning shears, a shovel and a spade.

Step 2: Planting Roses

- A. Choose a spot that receives at least 6 hours of sunlight a day with loose soil and good drainage.
- B. If the rose is in a pot, water it thoroughly before preparing the planting bed.
- C. Use garden spade or shovel to dig a hole 18 inches wide and 18 inches deep. Add some bonemeal or rose fertilizer into the hole.
- D. Loosen the soil around its roots to expose them before planting it in the hole.
- E. Give a thorough watering where you planted the rose to stabilize the plant.
- F. Place mulch over the area where you planted the rose.

Step 3: Caring for Roses

- A. Roses come in different varieties so proper care will depend mostly on the specific variety of rose. Some climbing roses are more drought-tolerant than others. Pruning requirements also vary depending on the rose variety and the climate area.
- B. Generally speaking, roses need a lot of watering for them to grow well.
- C. Once the roses have settled in, provide fertilizer a few times per growing season.
- D. Regularly prune and trim the roses to prevent rotting and disease.



Step 4: Diseases and Pests

A. Winter season poses a big threat to the roses as heavy winds and frosts may cause the plant to incur some damages. These are the following ways to protect the plant. First, it is best to trim the canes down to 2 feet and tie them with a strong thread to protect them from strong winds. Second, place a heap of compost around the base of the bush and add a layer of straw on top to keep the temperature warm. Lastly, remove it once the temperature rises to 11°C.

B. Bug treatment. Regularly spraying bugs off with water is an effective method of keeping them away from the rose plants.

C. Mildew problem. Regularly use fungicide at the beginning of the season to prevent mildews from appearing in the rose plants.

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