

Growing Roses

Roses are classified by their hardiness into two groups. Hardy shrub roses and Tender Tea Roses.

- * Shrub roses are easier to grow because they do not need special protection in the winter.
- * Tender roses need special protection and more watering.
- * Roses should be planted in a location that receives at least 6 hours of sunlight.
- * Add peat moss or well-rotted manure to heavy clay or sandy soils because roses will not tolerate wet soils.
- * Container grown roses may be planted at any time.
- * Dig a hole at least 45cm (18") deep and wide. Plant so that the graft is 10-12cm (4-5" in the ground.
- * If your garden soil is heavy clay, fill soil should be one part peat moss, one part coarse sand and one part garden soil. One cup of bone meal may be added to the soil mix. A good potting mix works as well.
- * Roses should be planted 60-70cm (2-2.3') apart.
- * Roses are heavy feeders; if the leaves are not shiny and dark green you are not fertilizing enough. Fertilize with a good Rose food mixture and apply every 10 days until the middle of August.
- * Plant roses where there is a lot of air movement for the prevention of blackspot and mildew. Both these diseases are caused by high humidity and can be treated with a fungicide. Aphids can be a problem as well. Look for them on flower buds, and use an insecticide for control.
- * Deadhead old flowers to have continued bloom.
- * Tea Roses need to be protected for the winter by covering with soil or other insulating material.