



Roses – Varieties & Care

Beautiful and fragrant, the rose is probably the most beloved flower in the U.S. It is also our national flower. Roses come in many varieties and grow in all 50 states. Below, we offer the descriptions of and care for the most popular types of roses we sell at Heirloom Gardens.

PATENTED ROSE

Virtually all new roses are patented. This usually means an individual has crossed roses with distinct differences and developed a new rose variety. The individual names the rose and secures a plant patent. Until the patent expires, each grower who produces and sells the patented plant pays a royalty on each rose bush.

STANDARD ROSE

Standard roses are unpatented. Many are fine, older varieties that were never patented, and others are excellent varieties with expired patents. Roses should not be selected by their "patented" or "standard" designation, but rather by their quality, health, and adaptability to the Brazos Valley. Many of our finest roses are Standard Roses.

HYBRID TEA ROSES

These are probably the most popular roses of all. Most all do well in Central Texas. They come in many colors and are often very fragrant.

FLORIBUNDA ROSES

Floribunda roses do not grow as tall as Hybrid Tea Roses. Flowers are borne in clusters, sometimes covering the entire bush. They come in many colors and bloom all summer long. They work well as low hedges in landscape plantings and are good for container growing.

GRANDIFLORA ROSES

These roses are extremely hardy and vigorous. They will grow taller than Hybrid Tea Roses and produce large flowers borne in clusters of two, three, and sometimes four on long strong stems. With good care, they will bloom all spring and summer.

MINIATURE ROSES

These very hardy roses perform well in the Brazos Valley, especially as container plants.

The smallest dwarf plants are 12 to 15 inches high, with tiny, perfectly formed rosebuds in all colors. Treat them as you would any container plant by using premium rose potting mix.

HEIRLOOM ROSES

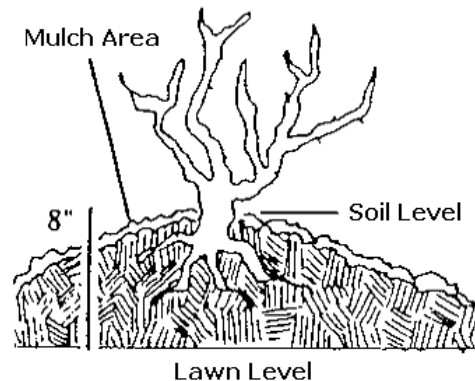
A recent marketing idea, Heirloom and Old Garden Roses are old-fashioned varieties well suited to adverse conditions. Many are climbers or running types. Colors and fragrances vary widely. Heirloom Gardens carries many varieties to choose from.

HOW TO PLANT ROSES

Roses should be planted so that soil is just under the bud union (the enlarged knot at base of stems).

A rose bed should be built 8 to 10 inches above the surrounding grade or lawn area. An easy and convenient way to build a rose bed is to add one bag of cotton burr compost, five bags of topsoil, and one bag of gypsum to existing soil. After planting, mulch entire bed area with one to two inches of our pine bark mulch.

When roses are planted individually, plant in the same soil mix described above or use premium rose mix. Also plant in graduated mounds as shown in the diagram below.



INSECTS & DISEASE

Roses should be sprayed with malathion or diazinon every seven to ten days during the growing season to eliminate insects like aphids and spider mites. In severe cases of spider mites, spray alternately with Kelthane, general

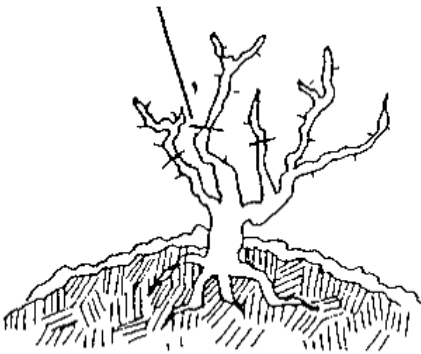
spray, or Orthene, using three applications at five day intervals.

Spray roses every two weeks with Funginex for powdery mildew and black spot or spray Consan Triple Action weekly. Or use Hi-Yield "Triple Action Spray" every 10 to 14 days for easier management of all insects and diseases.

PRUNING

Prune your roses in February, cutting back the entire bush to a height of 10 to 12 inches above the ground. Thin out the bush until you leave only three to five main stems. Be sure to remove any dead or diseased canes. Make each cut as close as possible to the main stem, leaving no short stubs. Climbing roses should be pruned to only 1/3 of their height yearly. Don't forget to wear gloves!

Pruning Lines



FERTILIZING & WATERING

Roses bloom on 30 day cycles, approximately. They should be fertilized with a prepared rose food after each blooming period. Be sure to follow the directions on all packages. A strong, healthy plant will produce its best blossoms during the cooler months of October and November, and again in April and May.

Spent rose blooms should be removed regularly. Stems should be cut down to the area where the first five leaf cluster is formed. This will keep the rose bush full and compact all year long. The rose bed should receive a thorough watering once each week. Avoid over watering in the evenings or sprinkling the foliage.