



SHRUB ROSES

Culture: roses required 6 hours of sunlight for maximum bloom and growth. Plant in a well drained area. Roses like to remain moist but not soaked. It is advisable to mulch 3" depth with organic mulch. Be sure to water weekly in times of drought. To minimize fungal issues on the leaves always water at the base on a slow trickle for 10 minutes.

Fertilizing: the first year a starter fertilizer is recommended upon planting and one month afterward. In subsequent years a slow release granular fertilizer is recommended. Fertilizing should be done in spring, but no later than July to allow time for all new growth to harden off before winter.

Pruning: pruning encourages new growth and blooms, improves air circulation to help prevent fungal issues, and shapes the plant. Always prune any dead or diseased branching immediately. Clean pruners off with rubbing alcohol or bleach solution. The first two years practice only basic pruning. Look for branches that look dry, shriveled, or black. Remove any twiggy or weak stems that are thinner than a pencil. Shrub roses bloom on mature but not woody stems. Prune your roses in spring when the forsythia is blooming.
Year Three: remove 1/3 of the oldest canes in addition to dead or diseased branching. Shape as needed. Remove canes from the base or center of the plant to open up air circulation.

Diseases and insects: typically the only insects are aphids and Japanese beetles. To control aphids an insecticidal soap can be used. For Japanese beetles which appear in June to July an insecticidal soap or chemical spray. Fungus issues include black spot and powdery mildew, which can be minimized with good pruning and air circulation, can be treated by spraying a 3-1 fungicide spray or 1 tsp of baking soda per 1 qt. water on your roses.

