



Roses are a garden plant with centuries of use and evoke emotions for many people for many different reasons.

Roses are a lovely addition to many gardens but there are some things you can do that will increase your level of success:

Planting Location

- * Most roses should be planted in an area that is protected from strong winter winds. In our climate they need to be protected from extreme low temperatures.
- * Choose a location that received at least 4-6 hours of hot sun. This is the primary energy source for the plant and a warmer location encourages the plant to produce more blooms.
- * Roses prefer to be planted in a rich soil that has good drainage.

Pruning

- * Roses should be pruned in early spring to achieve a framework of strong branches so as to promote vigorous growth and better flowering. At the same time it is good to remove any “suckers” that are growing from below the graft/bud. “Suckers” can be removed throughout the year as they may appear.
- * For climbing roses; select five strong canes from last years growth and prune at 3-5 feet from the ground (keeping some height to retrain up a trellis or fence.) Remove rest of growth.
- * All other roses select five strong canes from last years growth 1-2 feet from the ground and remove rest of growth.
- * Be sure to use sharp pruners and to remove all dead or old canes and fine branches.
- * During the growing season all roses will benefit from “dead-heading” spent blooms. These should be pruned at 3 sets of leaves below the spent bloom/cluster or blooms. Some of the hardy shrub type of rose will re-bloom faithfully even without this step.





Fertilizing

- * In order to produce large abundant flowers roses require a large amount of energy. Although rich soil and abundant sunlight are the primary source of nutrients, additional fertilizer is often necessary. It is best to use a rose purpose fertilizer, either slow release twice per year (at first spring growth and as plant reach peak bloom) or water soluble fertilizer at regular intervals all spring and summer. If you wish to use natural fertilizers; manures, fish emulsion and composts can achieve good results.

Insects and Diseases

- * Insects can be a major pest to roses. The most common challenges in this area are Aphids, Sawflies and Japanese Beetles. Keep an eye out for these pests and make treatments early to keep control.
- * Many diseases are found affecting roses. The most common issues in our area are Powdery Mildew, Black Spot and Rust. It is best to control these by how you plant, locate and tend your garden. Choosing a disease-resistant plant and location with good sunlight and air movement are the first steps to control. Proper pruning, sanitation, mulching, watering and fertilizing also make a substantial difference in keeping attractive roses all summer.

Winter Protection

- * We recommend gardeners offer extra protection to their roses over winter, our climate can be hard on them. Our preferred method is to use a wood mulch insulation 30-45 cm up the stems of the roses over winter. This is to protect the bud/graft from cold damage or dieback due to low temperatures. In the spring spread the mulch in the garden to a 7-8cm thick layer to keep weeds away and prevent soil from splashing up on leaves as the plant grows.

We hope you enjoy your roses from Sipkens for many years to come.

