

Frequently Asked Questions - Roses

Q. What type of roses are suitable for growing in a container?

A. Patio roses are generally best, as they have a smaller root system and don't have a long central taproot.

Q. What is the difference between a Floribunda and a Hybrid Tea rose?

A. Floribunda roses tend to produce more blooms during the flowering season, whereas Hybrid Tea roses have a better scent.

Q. What is the difference between a rambling rose and a climbing rose?

A. Ramblers are more vigorous and will produce more flowers, whereas climbers generally have larger blooms and more upright growth.

Q. When should I prune my roses?

A. Major pruning on roses should be done in March by cutting the stems back to around 6 inches (15cm). It is recommended pruning roses down by half in the autumn, mainly to tidy them up, but it is best to leave some length to the branches in case of a severe winter as you may get some die back.

Q. What are the black spots on my rose bushes?

A. This is a disease called 'black spot'. It is a common and disfiguring disease to roses. Fungicides are more effective when applied as a preventative disease control and we suggest alternating between different fungicides to reduce any chance of disease resistance.

It is best to treat your roses when the first leaves emerge. Roses will need to be sprayed once every 2-3 weeks from May through to September to keep both black spot and other possible problems under control.

Q. What do I need to use when planting a rose?

A. We suggest using bonemeal or rootgrow to improve the soil and also add some blended manure.