

Proper Pruning of Roses

Roses are an inspiration for many beautiful things, but it takes good pruning techniques to get them there. Typically, roses need annual pruning to keep them healthy, flowering and shaped. Here's what to look for when you're pruning your roses:

- Step 1: Cut away stems that are too close to the ground, rubbing together or overcrowded. Get rid of any stems that are weak or spindly. Cut back any that are diseased or winterized, until you see healthy, white pith.
- Step 2: As each rose stem grows, flowers and then dies, prune it back to renew the growth for next year. New wood originates at the bottom of the bush and replaces old wood over time as you cut it away.
- Step 3: Flowers of floribunda roses are born on new shoots and old stems. The older stems will have the buds that will flower first and the young shoots bear later flowers. Prune to preserve both old and new stems. Remove the old stems.
- Step 4: Hybrid tea roses produce long-stemmed, large blossoms throughout the growing season. If you prune it drastically, you'll find fewer flowers, later blossoms and a smaller plant. Shorten thick stems to 12 inches or more.
- Step 5: Through the summer, check your rose bush to remove flowers. If you want to cut flowers for indoors, cut them when the petals begin to open up. Otherwise, cut them just after they fade to give energy to the flowers that are still growing.

For more details go to [gardenplace.com](https://www.gardenplace.com)



What you'll need:

- Pruning shears
- Gloves