

### Pruning Tools:

Use any pruning shears designed for roses. A 2" blade works best. Long handled loppers should be used for larger canes. Sharp pruners make the best cuts. See picture at bottom for proper cutting technique.

### When to Prune:

The best time is late winter, before the new growth starts in spring.

### What to Prune:

A good rule is the 4 D's-DEAD, DAMAGED, DISEASED, & DISPLACED

**Proper Pruning Technique:** Remove canes that are weak, diseased, crisscrossing, rubbing. Remove suckers below the bud union if your rose is grafted. Leave the healthiest, newest canes.

### How many canes/how tall:

It is a matter of choice. A good rule is 4-8 canes depending on plant type/size. Canes should be between 8"-18" in height. Take your rose's growth habit into consideration with pruning and shaping.

### Clean up:

It is very important to remove all debris and clippings when you are done. Remove old leaves left on the plant.

**You can spray with fungicide/horticultural oil now, but hold off on feeding until the Spring.**

### Keeping your roses healthy and happy:

Remember to feed your roses often and deadhead the spent blooms as needed to promote repeat blooms.

### Deadheading:

To "deadhead" refers to removing dead or spent blossoms. This practice promotes repeat blooming by directing the plant's energy into

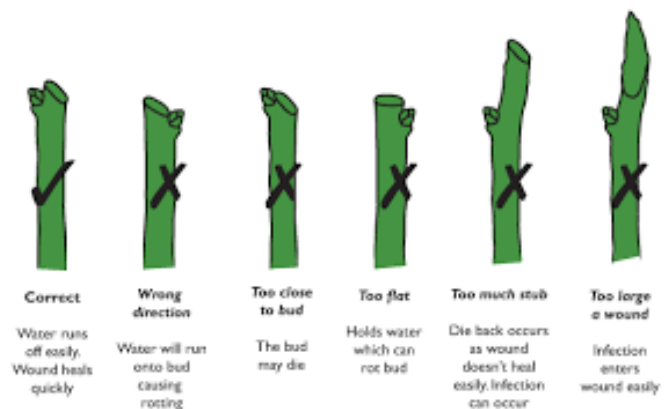
flower production instead of reproduction (seed).

Deadheading also removes hiding places for insects, discourages disease, improves air circulation, and makes way for more sun to reach more deeply into the plant. Regular deadheading throughout the growing season will stimulate faster rebloom, often grow stronger stems, and definitely keep your roses looking more attractive.

To deadhead, cut below the spent blossom, approximately 1/4" above an outward facing five-leaflet leaf or swollen bud eye (where the next flower stem will grow) and where the stem is about pencil size or larger for hybrid teas and smaller for smaller flowers. Often the leaf where you have made the cut will turn yellow and fall off – this is normal. When you are removing a spray, cluster, or cluster of blooms, cut below the entire mass.

### Disbudding:

The practice of disbudding applied to roses can produce some impressive results in the size and quality of the bloom. This is how you get those large flowered, long-stemmed roses. When disbudding for one bloom to a stem roses, such as hybrid teas, you remove the side buds that develop at the leaf axels below the main bloom. Do this by rubbing the tiny buds out from of the angle created between the leaf and stem. Try using your thumb. It works best for getting right in the right place. The earlier you do this in the development of the side buds the better, because you will leave less of a scar or black stub at the site.



Deadheading and Disbudding Roses