

PRUNING TIPS

*The thought of pruning can be daunting to gardeners; but it is easy. **YOU CAN NOT GO WRONG!**
Roses are tough and forgiving enough to withstand pruning of any kind.*

When: January through mid-February for the Sacramento area

Removing 1/3 to 1/2 of the top growth. The amount of cutting can depend on what type of rose you have and the size of the bush. For example, Hybrid Tea, Grandiflora and Floribundas should keep at least 3-6 strong healthy canes, whereas Shrub and English roses do best to maintain 6-8 canes and need only light pruning to maintain shape.

Pruning Guidelines:

1. Remove all dead, diseased and damaged canes, plus any spindly canes.
2. Remove suckers from the trunk or bud union that are different from the main plant.
3. Remove canes that cross through the center of the plant or rub on other canes.
4. Remove older gray canes in favor of new green canes.
5. Prune to improve the shape of the plant.
6. Prune to provide good air movement through and around the rose.
7. Make cuts slightly above a bud that faces the outside of the plant; cane center should be white.
8. Toss your pruning debris and rose leaves in the trash.

*Remember that every rose, every garden, and every gardener is different. **DON'T OVER THINK IT.**
So go ahead just prune—your roses thank you with lots of blooms.*



Use only bypass pruners and loppers!
They cut canes with a scissor like action.



Use file sharpener
frequently
on your
pruning tools.



Pruning Tools:

- ✓ Bypass pruners for cutting small canes.
- ✓ Long handled bypass lopper for cutting the larger canes.
- ✓ Hand Saw for cutting of canes close to the bud union (knuckle area at the base of plant)
- ✓ Leather gloves to protect your hands.
- ✓ File Sharpener
- ✓ Small rake
- ✓ Kneepad (optional)