

CARING FOR your roses

Where to plant roses

Roses need a sunny and airy place. However, they do not necessarily need sun for an entire day, a few hours of sun is enough. Roses that can be planted against a north wall are specifically mentioned in our catalogue. Do not plant roses with a delicate colour (i.e., brown or purple) in a place where the harsh midday sun shines.

It is better not to plant roses in a place where no rain falls.

Always keep rose beds **free** from fallen rose leaves, they contain many disease spores.

If you live in a cold climate you can protect your roses in winter by placing a layer of mulch at the foot of the plant.

Watering your roses

It is important to **water young plants regularly**. Rain alone is insufficient, and only after a year is the root system of roses sufficiently developed to supply them with enough water. Always pay special attention to roses that have been planted in difficult positions, for example, under a tree, near a large hedge, between pavement and on the south western side of a house.

Fertilization

Roses flower abundantly and therefore need sufficient fertilizer. When gardening on clay soil, which retains nutrients longer, a few applications of fertilizer

per year should be sufficient. When gardening on fast draining sandy soil, where water and nutrients are quickly lost, it is better to fertilize more frequently and in smaller amounts.

If you have access to **organic manure** it can be applied in **December** (well rotted, never fresh!).

In **March**, fertilize around the plant with **dried manure** (inexpensive and good).

In **June** give your roses **12-10-18**, or "**professional rozenmest**" rose fertilizer from the Zeeuwse Rozentuin to ensure healthy, abundantly flowering plants. Always apply fertilizer on the ground surrounding the plant and do not let it come in contact with the canes. Generally, too little fertilizer is given.

Sickness

Although more and more varieties of disease resistant roses are being developed, sickness and infestation can occur. The best prevention is to ensure that your roses are kept in top condition (see *Watering your roses* and *Fertilization*). Many problems can also be avoided by regularly depositing a 5 cm **layer of mown grass** under your roses.

We advise these sprays:

Aphids	Admire
black spot	Rosacur
	Baycor
	Delan
mildew	Rosacur
	Baycor
	Exact
insects	Decis

Pruning

The general rule is that all continuous flowering



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and repeat flowering roses are pruned in March when the chance of night frost has passed. It is advisable to prune roses back to 60 cm in November to protect against damage from high winds. Generally roses are pruned to 1 cm above an outward facing bud or "eye". Do not cut at a sharp angle since you want to keep the wound as small as possible. Always pay attention to the shape of the plant when pruning.

1. Low growing continuous flowering roses (large flowering and cluster flowering roses): remove dead and weak wood, save 3 to 5 strong canes and prune these back to 4 or 5 eyes per cane (15 to 20 cm).

2. Continuous flowering shrub roses and muscus roses: prune the primary canes back to a third of their height

3. Wild roses and their hybrids: occasionally old canes can be removed to encourage new growth.

4. Single flowering (old) shrub roses: remove only the dead wood for the first two years. In the third and following years: at the end of July (after the roses have flowered) long canes can be pruned back to a third and occasionally old canes can be removed to encourage new growth.

Old roses do not need vigorous pruning.

5. Bourbon-, hybrid perpetual-, repeat flowering moss roses: smaller plants can be treated the same as hybrid teas (see 1). Taller plants: retain 4 to 5 young strong canes and prune to the desired height.

6. Ramblers: do not prune for the first two years. Ramblers bloom on established wood and do not flower until the second year. After the third year any pruning should take place after flowering (at the end of July). Prune lightly to shape and control size. Retain 4 to 5 canes and now and then encourage new growth by cutting older canes back to just above a lateral growth.

7. Continuous and repeat flowering climbing roses: do not prune for the first two years. After the third year retain 4 or 5 canes, and prune the lateral stems back to the second or 3rd eye. Remember that climbing roses put their energy into growth in the first few years, and only flower abundantly in the years following.

8. Standard roses (tree roses): prune back to the 4th or 5th eye (not too short, so that the stem has enough resources to grow

thicker). The advantages of protecting the graft union against wind and frost by straw or other materials is outweighed, in our opinion, by the risk of damaging your tree rose with those same materials.

PLANTING your roses

When you purchase roses at the Zeeuwse Rozentuin you can choose between bare root roses (without root mass, in winter months) and potted roses (with root mass, the entire year).

Bare root roses are less expensive, but also more vulnerable. A container rose is already established, a bare root rose is not. The weather can have a large impact on the establishment of a plant. We guarantee that all the roses we sell are healthy and of good quality. For the further growth and flowering of the rose we can give no guarantee since there are so very many factors involved.

Do not plant your roses in a place where roses have previously stood, unless you have been well informed over the conditions and requirements under which it is possible.

Bare root roses

Planting time:

- November to April

Depending upon the weather, **you cannot plant when it is freezing**, you can plant roses anytime from November to (approximately) April. It is not a problem if it freezes shortly after planting. The earlier the

roses are planted, the more time the plant has to grow, and the larger the plant and the more abundant the flowering in the first year. The later you plant your roses, the more risks involved with rooting. Sometimes it is quite warm in March and April and along with making roots the plant will also begin to bud, which greatly increases its need for energy and water.

Transportation and storage

Bare root roses are provided with a plastic bag. They can be stored in this bag, in a **cool place** (frost free) for up to a week. It is best to open the bag for ventilation, and to keep the roots damp (not wet!).

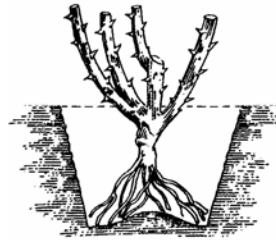
Draft and wind can cause the roots to dry out and must be avoided. If the plants must be stored for a longer period of time then it is best to bury them in a slanted trench with only the branches sticking out.

Planting

Before planting soak the roots in a bucket of water for an hour. Extremely long roots can be trimmed. The planting hole must be wide and deep enough for the roots to be spread out and not be bent double. The **graft union** (the swelling on the root where the canes begin) must be planted approximately **5 cm under** the surface. This ensures that the graft union is protected against the cold, and should the plant ever be too severely pruned it can still produce new growth. **Shallow planting can cause problems, planting too deeply does not.**

Hold the rose straight above the planting hole, the root will be a bit slanted and add three to

four handfuls of good potting soil or rose soil (choose one with a R.H.P. seal). Fill the planting hole with your own soil and press it firmly into place. Finally, give **plenty of water** and repeat this regularly, unless it freezes.



ATTENTION: Never put fertilizer, compost or fertilized garden soil into the planting hole.

Potted roses

There is a distinction between:

- **young potted roses (without fibrous roots)**
- **rooted potted roses (with fibrous roots)**

Young potted roses purchased in March, April and May **may not** be removed from their container (= plastic pot). The plant can only be removed from the container when the root mass is completely grown. When the root mass is ready you can see young white fibrous roots growing out of the underside of the pot. At this point the roses can be treated the same as rooted potted roses. It is also possible to plant young potted roses with pot and all in the ground, but then you must ensure that they receive sufficient **water**.

Planting time:

- the whole year.

Container roses can be planted all year long,

unless it freezes. Roses purchased from the Zeeuwse Rozentuin are potted in special rose soil. It is important to give sufficient water.

Transportation and storage

Container roses are usually purchased in the spring and summer. When transporting roses remember that in warm weather and strong sun, the temperature in your car or trunk can rise rapidly. This should be avoided as it can affect the quality of your roses. Should it occur then leaving the roses out overnight in a cool place is usually enough to revive a limply hanging plant. However, extended overheating can be disastrous. The only remedy is to prune the plant back to 5 cm and to let it grow out again.

Planting

With container roses the graft union is often positioned too high and therefore the planting hole needs to be **deeper** than the height of the pot. Any roots sticking out of the bottom of the pot need to be cut off before removing the plastic pot. The root mass should be **wet** but neither heavy and soaked nor dried out. Squeeze the sides of the pot a few times, place your hand over the soil and turn the pot over. You can carefully remove the pot now and you will retain a good root mass. Position the rose in the planting hole, fill the hole up with your own ground, press firmly and give plenty of **water**.

Last but not least... enjoy your flowers.