



# Roses 101



## Soil

- Make sure rose stays watered in pot prior to planting
- Before planting, place potted rose into a bucket of water and let soak until there are no more air bubbles coming up from the soil
- Most roses grow best in well-draining, loamy, clay-like soil
- Add compost to the planting area, about 2 parts compost to 1 part soil

## Planting Own-Root Roses (Shrub roses, native roses, miniatures)

- Dig a hole twice the width and same depth as root ball (see Fig. A)
- Water well! Leave hose on a slow trickle for at least 15 mins to ensure thorough watering

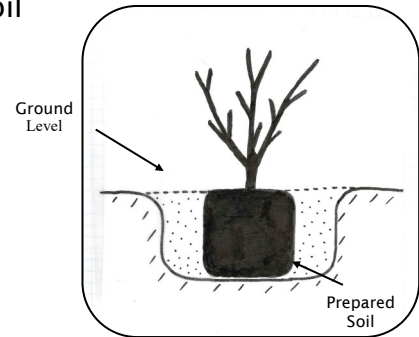


Fig A - Own-Root Roses

## Planting Grafted Roses (Hybrid Tea, Grandiflora, Floribunda)

- Dig a hole twice the width of the root ball
- Graft union should be 2-3" lower than soil level (see Fig. B)
- Water well! Leave hose on a slow trickle for at least 15 mins to ensure thorough watering

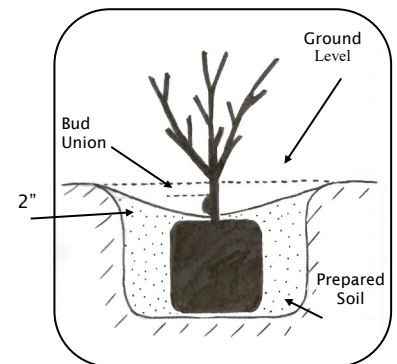


Fig. B - Grafted Roses

## Watering

- New plantings require good watering for at least the first full growing season
- Water from the base, near the roots/ground, not overhead on the leaves to help prevent disease
- Watering frequency is dependent on weather conditions and climate

## Maintenance

- Put 2-3 inches of mulch around rose to maintain soil moisture and health
- Weed regularly to prevent competition
- Need to be at least two feet away from other plants for good air flow
- Keep an eye out for pests! No need to spray unless you see them
- When deadheading roses during growing season, cut stems just above the first full leaf (a leaf with five leaflets)
  - ☆☆☆Check rose variety before deadheading! Some, like *rosa rugosa* and David Austin 'Tottering-by-Gently,' for example-- will produce rose hips ☆☆☆
- Fertilize end of May
  - can fertilize again after 7 weeks but never after mid-August

Check here for more planting tips!



# Pruning

- When deadheading roses during growing season, cut stems just above the first leaf with five leaflets
- Check rose variety before deadheading! Rose hips are good for winter interest and your local bird population
- When pruning large areas/ entire plant, wait until early spring

# Winterizing Roses

- All **Hybrid Tea, Grandiflora, Floribunda, tree roses, and roses Zone 6 or higher** need to be protected to survive New England winters
- After several hard winter frosts, remove dead, diseased, or unwieldy branches
- Mound **NEW** soil or compost around the base of the bush to a depth of 6 to 8 inches. This protects tender roots from the damaging effects of freezing and thawing soil (see Fig. C)
- Create a cylinder from chicken wire or hardware cloth that fits around the bush, leaving 3-5 inches of space between the canes and the inside of the cylinder. The cylinder should be three to four inches taller than the tallest canes.
- Anchor the cylinder in the soil with spikes or wooden stakes and fill the gap between the rose bush and the wire cage with straw or leaves
- Wrap the cage with burlap and secure with twine. This provides insulation against sharp winter winds and prevents damage from repeated freezing and thawing that occurs during the winter (see Fig. D)
- Many climbers are extremely hardy, but ensure that long canes are well secured to prevent splitting under the weight of heavy snow
- As spring temperatures increase, gradually remove straw or leaves and mound of soil away from the plant. (Usually in early April) (see Fig. E)
- Wait until after the last hard frost of spring to prune as desired

