

When should I mulch my roses for the winter?

Because winter mulch prevents plant rootballs from heaving out of the ground during periods of freeze and thaw, it doesn't have to be applied until the ground actually freezes. Recycled evergreen boughs from Christmas garlands make a loose, lightweight mulch. Straw and shredded bark are other organic mulch materials that will eventually break down in the soil.

Where can I plant roses?

Roses can be planted in any location that meets the following three requirements:

The spot must receive at least 4 to 6 hours of direct sun each day.

There must be enough space to allow 18 to 24 inches space around the plant for air circulation.

The soil must drain well enough that there is no standing water.

What is the best time of year to prune roses?

The best time to prune roses is in early spring just before new growth starts ? sometime after the last killing frost.

What is the best time of year to transplant roses?

The best time of the year to transplant is either in the fall, or in the early spring ? when the roses are dormant and the ground is workable.

How do I know if roses will grow in my area?

Roses are extremely hardy plants and will grow in just about any area of the country. In the most northern areas, however, plants do require some winter protection.

Why are roses more fragrant at certain times?

Roses are often more fragrant in a warm, humid atmosphere, and during the brief time before a summer storm. Drought, extreme heat, or very cold days diminish the fragrance of roses.

Can I grow roses in containers?

Yes, roses can be grown in containers. Miniature roses and small floribundas are easiest, but even hybrid teas will do nicely in planter boxes.

How soon after planting will roses be in bloom?

Floribunda, hybrid tea and hedge roses will bloom in just 6 to 8 weeks after planting. Climbers will bloom a little during the first season, but are really at their best by the second year.