

Grow Roses: Tips To Grow Healthy And Beautiful Roses

If you think it's difficult to grow beautiful and healthy roses, think again. Below are a few tips that will get you well on your way.

Prepare the soil

Roses require rich and loamy soil. When choosing a spot to plant new roses pick one that gets at least six hours of sunshine a day. Roses don't like their feet wet so stay away from areas that don't drain well. Dig a hole twice as deep and wide as your rose bush container. Backfill the hole with a mixture of 50% compost and 50% of the soil you've removed. Sprinkle in slow release fertilizer per the package directions. Place the rose in the prepared hole. Make sure the soil line on the rose is at the same level as the soil line in your garden. You may have to fill the hole a little more or remove a bit of soil. When you're satisfied, place the bush in the hole and fill the hole half way and water well. When the water has drained completely fill in the hole.

If your roses are already established freshen up their soil by adding compost, well rotten manure, or top soil. Sprinkle with a slow release fertilizer and work this mixture into the soil around the rose bushes.

Bugs and other critters

Keep ahead of bugs by inspecting the roses on a daily basis or at least twice a week. If you catch problems early they won't become serious. Aphids love roses. Wash them off with a hard spray from your garden hose. If that doesn't work use a spray of 1 teaspoon of dishwashing liquid in a gallon of water. The soap sticks to the aphids and kills them but it won't hurt the roses.

If you find a grayish to white film on the leaves and rose buds it's probably powdery mildew. It's not serious but it will ruin the look of the flowers. Use a fungicide especially for roses. Neem is a good one.

Other problems are dark spots on the leaves, holes, skeletonized leaves and flower buds becoming brownish. Take a sample of the rose bush to your local plant nursery and they can tell you exactly what the problem is and how to solve it.

Dead Heading

One of the benefits of roses is having lots of beautiful bouquets in the house. That's good for you and good for your roses. Flowers have only one purpose in life and that's to produce seeds so the plant can reproduce itself. Once the seeds have set many flowers, including roses, stop blooming. Remove the flowers as they become old and the bush should keep producing new blossoms. It will help flower production if you pick blossoms in their prime as well.

Feeding and Watering

Feed your roses a slow release fertilizer per the package directions. Most roses will only need to be fed in early spring right after they've leafed out and late summer. Water well after feeding.

As we said roses don't like their feet wet so water only when the top 2 inches feel dry. Roots go down about three feet so if the top of the soil feels moist the roses don't need to be watered yet.

You can grow beautiful roses without a lot of effort.

About the Author

Find more tips from Dee Power on growing roses, flowers, fruits, vegetables and trees at [Easy Garden Care](#). Dee Power is the author of several nonfiction books. She and her daughter have created [Party Ideas: Kids](#). Read her [Blog](#)

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