



## Rose Pruning General Principles

- Prune to encourage new growth and flowers
- Intemperate climates July is the optimal pruning time
- Prune to remove and dead or diseased wood
- Prune any spindly, weak or crossing branches
- Generally roses can be pruned to about half their unpruned height, leaving a well balanced framework for the next season's growth
- Always prune to an upward facing bud, ensuring the new growth does not grow towards the centre of the bush
- Don't try to cut on an angle, cuts too high above the bud or too close to the bud will lead to die back which will continue down the stem of the rose

Many roses are grafted onto hardy rootstock, resulting in hardier, healthier plants.

Any growth produced from below the graft level should be removed. (on standard roses, all buds are removed from the rootstock before grafting is commenced).

Aim at opening the centre of the bush, thus allowing airflow and sunlight to reduce diseases eg. mildew and black spot.