

## rose care

Shrub roses are growing in popularity everyday, and are one of the few hardy varieties in this climate. Gardeners find their ease of care and superior winter hardiness make them an excellent addition to the landscape. Land Art only carries shrub and tree rose varieties.

### General Care

- Roses need at least 5 to 6 hours of sun. Some morning sun is beneficial to help dry dew off the leaves.
- Fertile, well-drained soil with plenty of organic matter is ideal for roses.
- Mulch roses with 3 inches of organic mulch, but keeping mulch 2 inches away from the crown to prevent rot.
- Water from the base, preferably in the morning so the sun can dry the foliage. Try to wet the foliage as little as possible, since wet leaves promote disease.
- Shrub roses come in a wide variety of flowers and sizes. Generally they are larger bushes than the Hybrid Teas, with dense growth and decorative hips in the fall. They will repeat flower, some more than once depending on variety. They are hardy, requiring no winter protection.

### Pruning

- Pruning generally needs to be done in late winter or early spring, before new growth starts.
- Spring pruning usually includes removal of dead and diseased wood, wood smaller than a pencil in diameter, and suckers which grow from below the bud union.
- When pruning for shape or size, cut canes on a slant above a healthy, outward-facing bud to encourage open-centered, vase-shaped growth, which is the goal of spring pruning.
- Prune the dead wood, which is dark in color, by cutting it off flush where it originates.
- Prune suckers by gently pulling back the soil, and cutting them off at their point of origin.

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- Summer pruning consists of removing spent flowers to encourage more blooms.
- Cut the dead flowers off down to the first five leaflet branch.
- Don't deadhead after mid-September, so the plant can harden off for the winter.
- Pruning needs to be done to remove old and weak wood every 2 to 3 seasons, during late winter or early spring. Pruning main shoots back by 1/3 will promote flowering and keep the shrub shapely