



# ROSES 6 Easy Planting Steps

## WHAT YOU NEED TO PLANT:

**Soil Amendment**– Organic Soil Building Conditioner (mix 30% SBC to 70% native soil)

**Root Starter**– Fertilome Root Stimulator

**Plant Spacing:** Rose: 3FT apart Climber: 4-5FT apart Mini: 2FT apart

1. Deeply water the pulp pot and let it drain before planting. (This helps keep root ball intact.)
2. Dig your planting hole. (2x the width of the root ball & the same depth of rose in the pulp or plastic pot.)
3. Place the potted rose in the hole to get proper depth. The graft/knob area on the rose stem should be above soil. (David Austin roses do not have a graft.)
4. Cut the bottom off the pulp pot. Make three to four vertical cuts into the sides and remove them. (Plastic potted rose–gently remove plant & root ball from its plastic pot and carefully place rose in the hole you pre-dug)
5. Backfill with amended soil (30% SBC to existing soil) as you remove the sides of the pot.
6. Lastly, fill in the rest of the planting hole and gently press the soil down. Water thoroughly and add Root Stimulator. You can compost the pulp pot.



## Watering:

- Water deeply, then let the top few inches of soil dry before watering again.
- Morning watering helps leaves time to dry, preventing sunburn and disease.

## Fertilizing:

- Water deeply before and lightly after feeding your rose.
- Fish Emulsion: Boosts bloom color; great for new roses
  - ½ tbsp/gal weekly or 2 tbsp/gal monthly - switch to granular later for easier care.
- Rosetone (organic): Apply monthly May–Sept
- Fertilome Rose Food (2nd year): Before buds, after first bloom, mid-summer.
- Bio-Advance All-in-One (2nd year): Controls pests/disease but can harm pollinators.
- Stop fertilizing after midsummer to avoid frost damage.

## Pruning:




- Deadhead regularly to encourage root growth.
- Cut above an outward-facing leaflet of 5+, leaving at least 2 more sets on the cane.
- Prune in spring when leaves start to emerge (not during winter).
- Clean pruners between cuts (rubbing alcohol or 1:10 bleach/water.)
- Remove canes touching others to improve air flow.
- Follow the "Three D's": Remove Dead, Damaged, and Diseased canes.







# Rose Care Guidelines


**Watering:** Water your rosebush with a deep soak and allow the top few inches of soil to dry before the next watering. The best time to water is early morning, allowing the leaves to dry before the hot sun burns them or before night time temperatures set up disease. See our watering guide for more information (QR code on bottom of page).

**Fertilizing: Organic Espoma Rosetone**  monthly May–Sept. **Fertilome Rose Food** starts 2nd year: apply before buds, after first bloom, and mid-summer. **Fish Emulsion**  boosts bloom color—great for new roses (½ tbsp/gal weekly or 2 tbsp/gal monthly). Switch to granular later for ease. Bio-Advance All-in-One helps with pests/disease 2nd year but harms  pollinators. Water deeply before and lightly after feeding. Stop fertilizing after midsummer to prevent frost damage.

**Pruning:** Deadhead spent blooms regularly. The proper method is to angle the cut towards the center stem above an outward-facing leaflet of five or more, leaving at least 2 more sets on the cane. Cutting and removing flowers moves energy to the roots. Annual pruning is done in spring (not winter) when leaves begin to emerge. Use rubbing alcohol or 1 part bleach to 10 parts water to clean pruners between cuts. This helps prevent the spread of disease. Remove any canes that rest on another cane. A simple rule to remember is “The Three D’s”: Remove dead, damaged and diseased canes.

**Mulching:** A mulch layer of 2–3” of **G&B Soil Building Conditioner** (SBC) has great benefits. SBC keeps the soil cool, minimizes weeds, encourages earthworms, and gives the bed a nice, clean, finished look. Keep mulch at least 6” from rose center stem where it meets the soil. FarWest sells soil building conditioner in 3 cu ft bags.

**Insects/Disease Prevention:** Aphids, mildew, and blackspot are common. Aphids love new spring rose growth. Spray with water early AM to knock them off. Ladybugs and lacewings help—ask us about availability at FarWest. If needed, spray **Fertilome Neem Oil**  or **Triple Action** (below 80° and when bees aren’t active). Triple Action isn’t bee-safe . These sprays suffocate aphids and eggs. If heavy infestation, use chemicals first, then release predators after. Don’t use both at once unless using a liquid systemic applied to the ground.

Powdery mildew shows up when our nights are warm, especially with poor air flow or low sun. Watering at the rose base with drip emitters and proper spacing for best airflow between rose shrubs along with adequate light help inhibit powdery mildew. Use Bio-Advance All-in-One or Fertilome Fungicide  at night (when bees aren’t active). Prune and bag up infected leaves—don’t compost them.

Follow these basics; provide your roses with lots of sunshine, proper watering, pruning and you will be bestowed with bushels of gorgeous, fragrant beauties for years to come. Don’t forget to share with your neighbors, friends & family. Nothing says you care more than a bouquet of roses you grew in your own garden!