

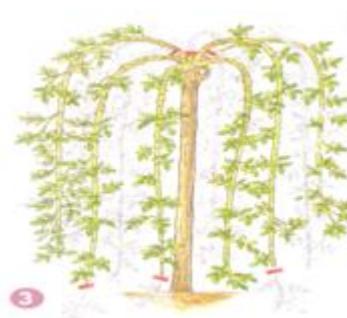
# How to Prune Roses

Prune most roses in winter, as well as during the year after flowering to induce more blooms. Don't worry too much about technique as they respond well even if over-pruned.

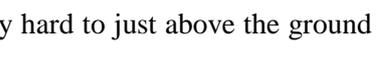
1. **Bush Roses:** Cut out dead or weak wood completely, then cut branches back by about one-third (as shown). Very old, thick branches can be cut as low down as possible. Prune standard roses in the same way, making sure pruning cuts are always above the graft union.



2. **Shrub Roses:** Thin shrub roses, including Hybrid Rugosa types, by cutting out old, thick branches close to the ground. All remaining young canes are simply tip-pruned to remove old flower heads and withered hips. Never cut this young growth back hard.



3. **Weeping Standard Roses:** It is a mistake to prune back all weeping branches to a short skirt. It's more sensible instead to select the oldest branches and cut them right out from the top – just above the graft union (as below). Tip-prune the remaining canes.



4. **Miniature, Groundcover & Patio Roses:** Cut these back very hard to just above the ground in winter.

5. **Climbing Roses:** To renew older climbers, remove about one-third of the oldest branches just above the graft union (as below). Cut back all the small side shoots to leave a couple of buds. You'll be left with a framework of main stems. Don't cut back long, whippy branches – these produce the most flowers. Simply tie them to the support.



6. **Old Garden Roses:** Most of these roses need little pruning, apart from snipping off the tips of the canes, plus old hips and dead blooms. Every few years, however, drastic treatment is required with vigorous specimens. Remove all big, woody stems close to the ground, using a sharp pruning saw. Tip-prune the remaining branches.