

Bare Root Rose Planting

Bare root roses are usually available mid December to February. When buying bare root, you may find better varieties selection, more plants to choose from and they almost always cost less.

To plant bare root roses, select a warm, sunny location. Dig a hole approximately 20" wide and 18" deep. Mix the soil you removed from the hole with about 50% planter mix. If the soil is extremely bad, add a little more planter mix. Form a mound in the bottom of the hole with this mixture and spread the roots as evenly as possible over the mound.

The bud or union graft should be about 2" above the soil level. Fill the remaining portion of the hole with the soil/planter mix material and firm the soil. Make a basin approximately 18" to 24" in diameter around the newly planted rose and water thoroughly. If you are planting in containers, use at least a 14" diameter or larger pot. A larger pot allows more room for the plant and reduces the frequency of watering. Use a good potting soil for superior results. Feed monthly with a good rose food. We use Gro Power the first of each month beginning in February with great results. Follow the directions on the bag.

Insects and fungus are best taken care of as soon as you notice them. Preventative spraying using Orthenex on a weekly basis should keep things in good control. Funginex is recommended if you have mildew and rust, and insects are not a problem. There are organic controls available also and you can consult with a nursery professional for help.

If you have any problems, bring a sample in for identification by a nursery professional.

Use Ada Perry's magic formula around each established plant after pruning or at planting time with bare root roses. Cultivate into the soil and water well. Use again in July. Walter Andersen Nursery has this formula premixed for your convenience.