



Brilliant by Nature

Attention: Greenlife / Nursery
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Breaking News



'Step-by-step: pruning ground-cover roses'

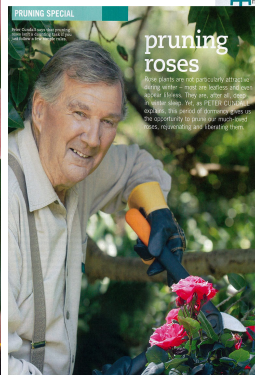
“Ground cover roses thrive after a severe winter pruning, shooting vigorously.

...They love this brutal pruning and shoot vigorously within a month. The same treatment can be repeated in January to extend the flowering period into early winter.”

Peter Cundle, gives details on how to prune and extend the flowering period on ground cover roses. A step-by-step image guide shows Flower Carpet® Pink (Gardening Australia- July issue).

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They are all beautiful, but the most popular roses produce bushes of glorious blooms from early summer, with some in January and April, to bloom through summer.

They are extraordinarily hardy and the most intense when we savagely hack back at them in winter. It's not when we prune our roses they look good. So why bother? To obtain better and longer flowering, control diseases, control rampant growth, and in turn provides magnificent flowering during the growing season.

Pruning roses is easy. There are tricks, although each type needs to be pruned in a specific way. **Flower and patio roses** tend to be knee high, most of them are not grafted but self-rooted. This makes them easy to prune because there are no canes to contend with. Cut out canes first then take a large shears and simply chop them back to three-quarters, leaving more than neatly. Job done.

Miniature and shrub roses These roses spread to 3-4 square metres, with hundreds of small flowers in tight clusters. Before pruning they are a tangled mass of prickly branches. To prune, encase the plant with a looped rope just above the ground and pull tight to bring the branches into a loose bundle. Use branch cutters to cut all stems below the rope. They love this brutal pruning and shoot vigorously within a month. The same treatment can be repeated in January to extend the flowering period into early winter.

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4 Weeping standards These are old-fashioned number roses grafted onto the tops of 2m tall standards. Their branches weep to the ground, creating a spectacular display when in flower. They are often pruned by cutting them back hard to create a kind of mini-stand effect but this can seriously retard their growth. It is far better to cut out the oldest and thickest branches where they spring at the top. This may take away at least one-third of existing branches, leaving only a thin cascade of young branches trailing to the ground. Trim these at ground level where they tend to turn upwards.



Good selling,

Corrinne

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