

Horticulture: Roses

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ROSES can be an ever faithful addition to your home garden. There are many varieties to make different statements in your landscape. You can plant a rose garden, or a border, or add vertical interest with pillars or climbers. Look at your summer garden and imagine a new addition of roses to your sunniest area. Make a design plan for your autumn planting.

SPECIMEN BLOOMS: LONG STEM FOR CUT FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS:

Garner the most praise from visitors! Most expensive and tenderest, they need the most pampering and winter protections, and are more susceptible to fungus and insects. Limited fragrance can be a plus for allergy sufferers. Hybrid Teas, aka large-flowered bush rose, are the showiest. They are listed hardy to Zone 5, so shield them from winter wind (Lynch Park). Favorites: "Touch of Class", "Electron", "Olympiad" and "Queen Elizabeth". Pictured is 'Voluptuous'.



'Voluptuous'

FRAGRANCE, SIT AND WATCH THE BUTTERFLIES AND BEES:

If planting mainly for fragrance, consider the clove scented *rosa rugosa*, with single/double blossoms in spring and colorful rose hips in fall. Suggested varieties: 'Salet', 'Madame Hardy', 'Belle de Provins'. Don Juan is a fragrant climber; plant lavender around base. Two showy grandifloras are 'Dark Desire', and the pictured 'Bella' Roma'.



'Bella' Roma'

CONTINUOUS BLOOMS, EYE CANDY FOR YOUR EFFORTS:

Newer cultivars of floribunda bush roses have been bred purely for a long blooming season and are sold as spreading 'carpet roses'. One of the most faithful and easy care variety is a polyantha, 2-3', with masses of small blossoms growing in clusters, summer till frost. Polyantha "The Fairy", a seashell pink, was planted in the Chris Landman Garden and is easily recognized in the picture.



'The Fairy'

EASY CARE, JUST PLANT AND ENJOY:

A very hardy *rosa rugosa* hedge rose, is the almost thornless 'Linda Campbell' which grows 5 to 8', has no scent to attract bees (can plant near your patio). The English Rose variety Tamora, peach color, is not affected by blackspot. Problem sandy banking? Cover with "Starry Night" or 'Scarlet Meidiland" carpet roses. Pictured: heirloom winter hardy climber 'Lady in Red'. A pink variety is 'Above and Beyond'.



'Lady in Red'

GROWING TIPS:

Plant roses in a sunny, well drained location, with soil between 5.5 and 7.0 pH. Always provide composted mulch at the base; do not smother the crown in summer, but do protect it in winter. Groundcover plants work well also. Locate rose to accommodate mature growth size to be at least 12" from a house wall. A cool wet spring will breed aphids: remove mulch early.

The old fashioned climbers will easily live for 75 years or more, so it is prudent to invest in a trellis, arbor, or fence that can also age well. Prune after three years. When pruning, save two or three green canes for each culled older cane that turned brown.