



Winter Pruning Rose Care

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Existing Plant Pruning

(Repeat Bloom, Modern Roses)

- Prune ~ Jan 1- Feb 15
- Prune once blooming Old roses after bloom
- **Prune out dead, diseased or damaged and crossing or weak canes and suckers**
- Shape the plant
- Prune large plants leaving pencil size canes
- If the plant is getting too big, prune aggressively, too small, prune lightly

Jan1 - Feb15
Modern Rose
Pruning Time
In The SF Bay
Area

Pruning Tools

- ***Be safe!*** Protect hands, head, arms and eyes
- Sharpen tools
- Clean scratches and thorn/prickle punctures (e.g., use iodine)
- Use “bypass” pruners (shown)

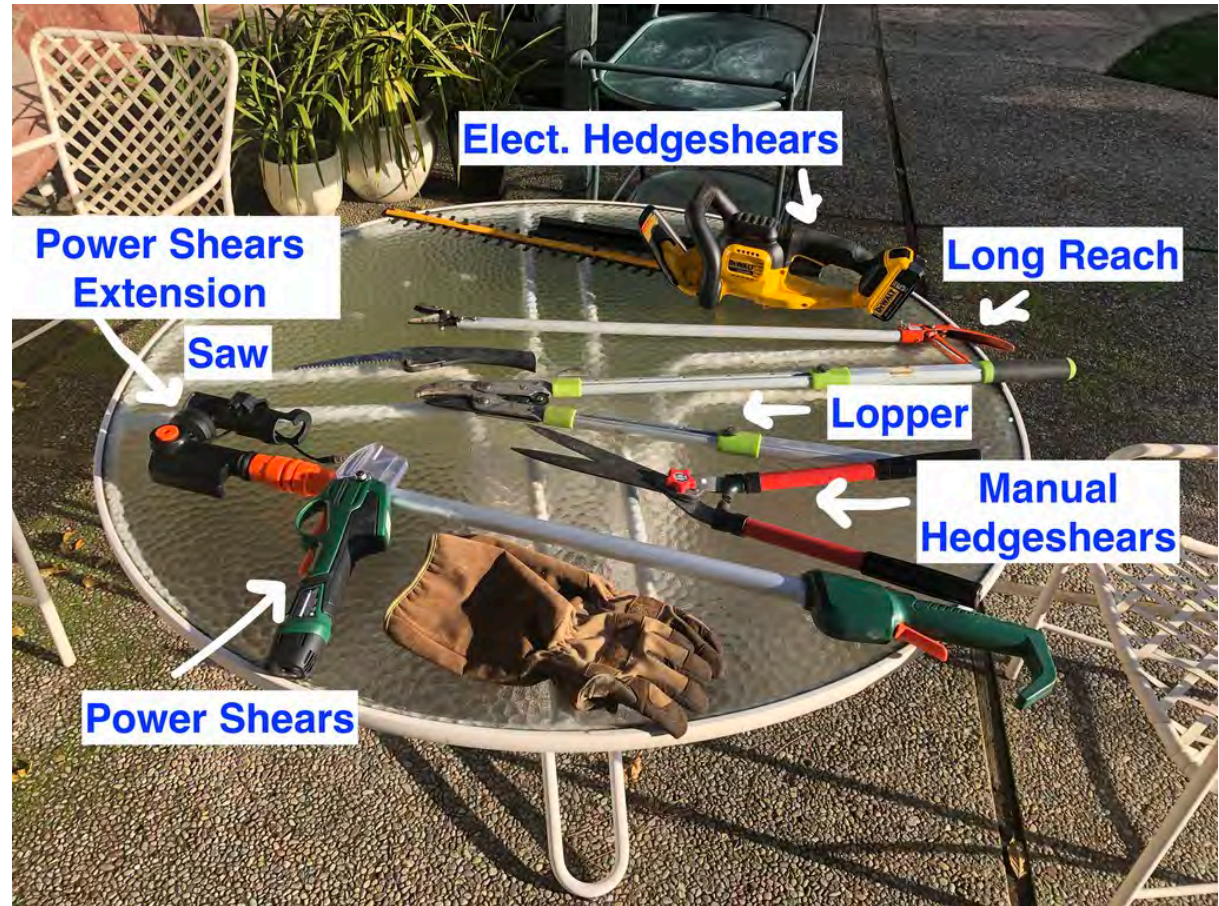


Additional Pruning Tools

- First “Haircut”

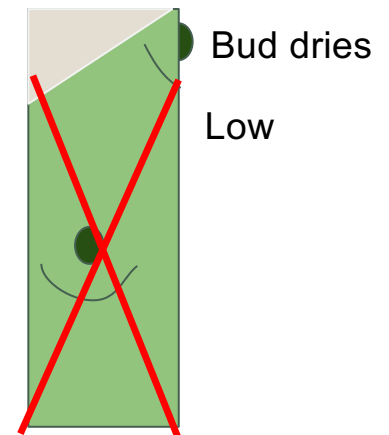
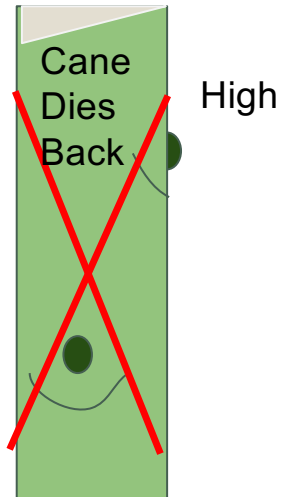
- Heavy Prune

- Long Reach



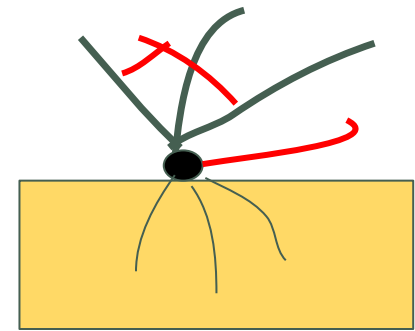
Prune/cut at 45 degree angle

- Prune to **point the growth outward**
- “Point” buds **away** from the center
- Sharp **bypass shears** not “anvil” type - sharp blade on “kept” side
- 45 degrees (a natural healing angle) ending across from bud eye
- Too high - dieback
- Too low - bud eye dries and dies
- Prune so it heals



Prune Large and Mini Roses

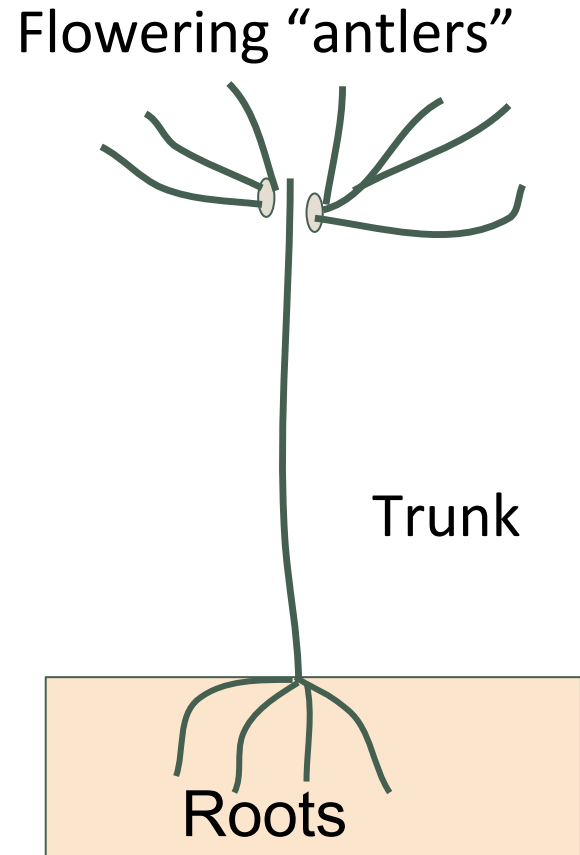
- Remove dead, diseased, crossing or very weak growth (red)
- Clear out center - leave “open vase”
- Leave strongest canes (3-5 is plenty for modern roses)
- Remove oldest canes periodically
- Floribundas leave more branching structure (light pruning)
- Light pruning $\sim \frac{1}{3}$ reduction
- Heavy pruning $\sim \frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ reduction



Minis have no bud union - on own roots

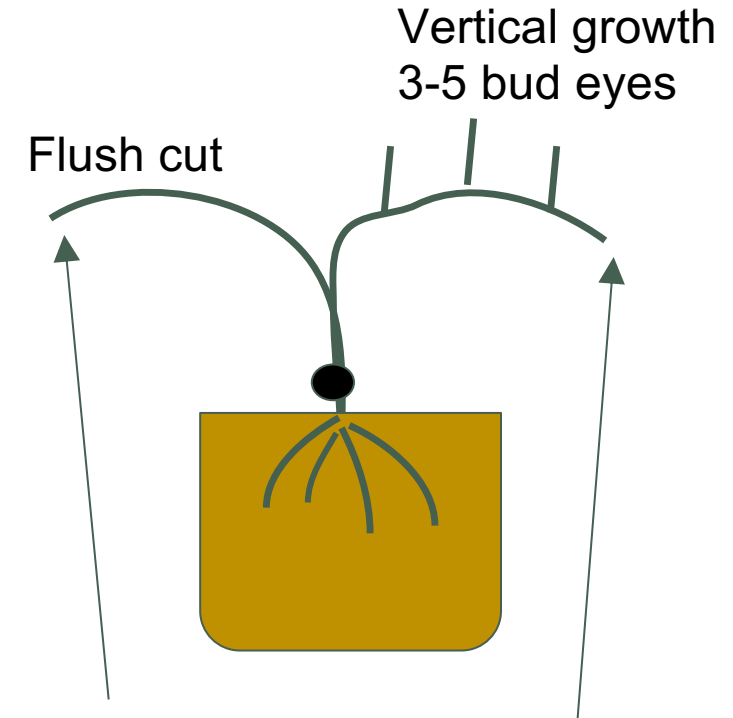
Prune- Standards (aka Tree Roses)

- Standards have four pieces
- 1- Rootstock, 2-trunk, 3&4- two budded “antlers”
- Prune the antlers like you would a bush - open and airy, cut out weak, crossing, dead, broken canes
- Anything else from the roots or trunk is a sucker



Pruning Climbing Roses

- Remove dead, diseased, damaged, crossing or very weak growth
- Climbers are different
 - Train for the first year or two for structure don't prune growth – **point tips DOWN**
 - For trellises or arches train over the top and down
 - Prune flush to the horizontal canes **or** leave 3-5 bud eyes on vertical growth



Climbers point “structure” tip down for more flowers

Climber before, 5 bud, and flush



Tip down promotes laterals

Alternate climber pruning



Tip

5 bud eyes

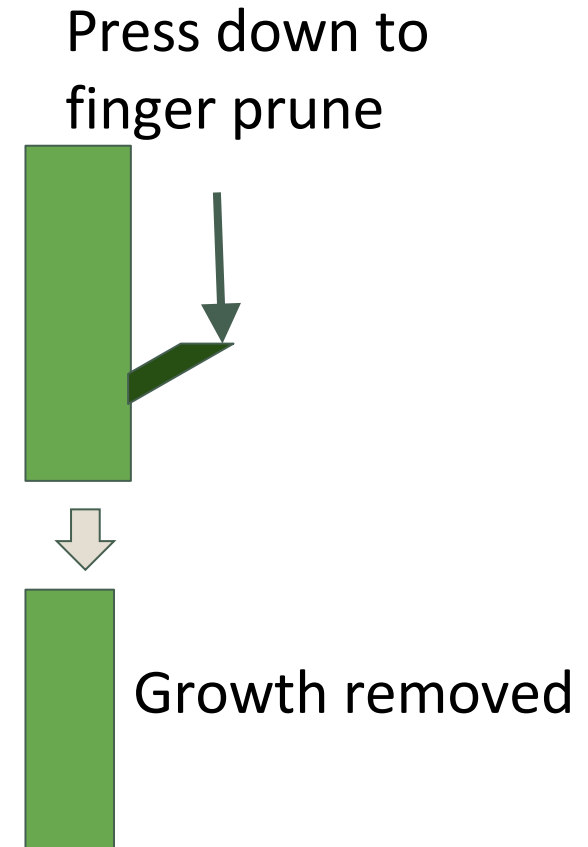


Flush



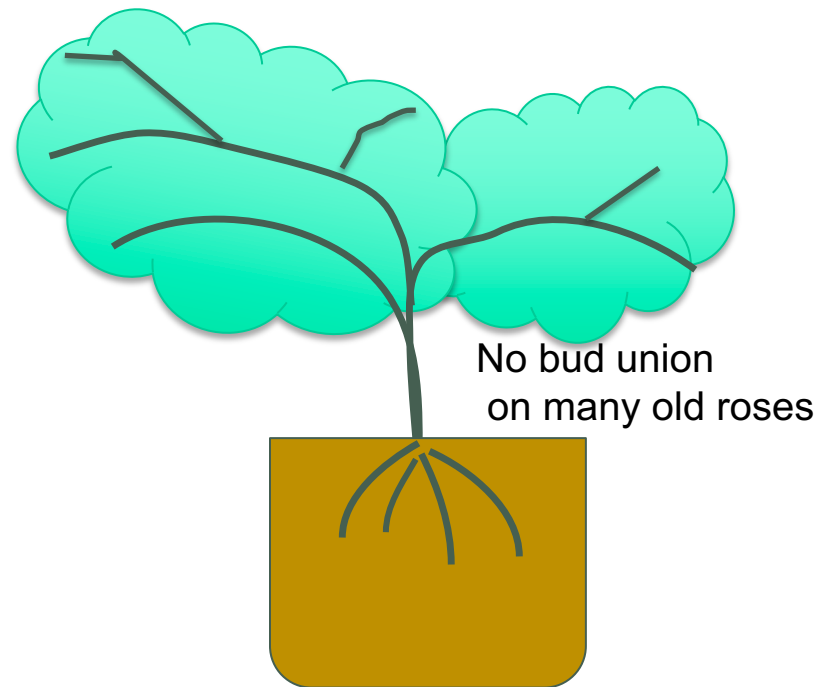
After Pruning (Finger Prune)

- Weeks after you prune, buds swell and grow
- Some will “point” to the middle and be near the bottom
- With a glove, push down to remove the ones toward the center and near the bottom of main canes
- Leave other growth where you want it to be (point it)
- Keep growth from bud union



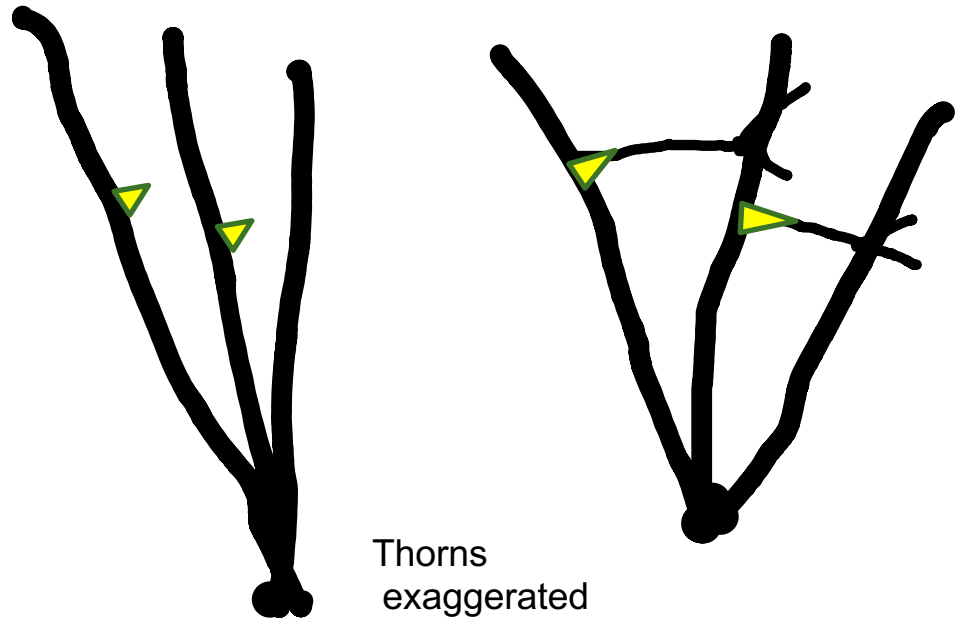
Prune Once-Bloomers After Bloom

- Many old roses bloom only once per year
- Don't prune these in winter, wait until after bloom. Spring flowers are on 1-2 year old wood
- Prune lightly to shape or train the rose
- ***Remove dead, damaged and diseased growth***



Use Props to Shape Plants

- If canes are too close and middle is crowded
- Put “props” between canes – they can last
- Like bonsai, plants grow as trained
- Waste pruning material- no leaves for props
- Bottom cut flat, strip leaves leave a “Y”
- Spread with prop



Thorns
exaggerated
Hold bottom in place

Managing Disease

- If you don't wish to spray for fungal disease, try pruning for more air and light and increase ground to foliage height
- If you spray, use less toxic sprays – these are OMRI listed
- Dormant spray (e.g., copper) reduces disease onset severity
- Insects are smothered by oils and Neem oil has other actions
- Black spot often goes away on new growth as the season warms



Example OMRI Sprays (Organic Materials Research Institute)

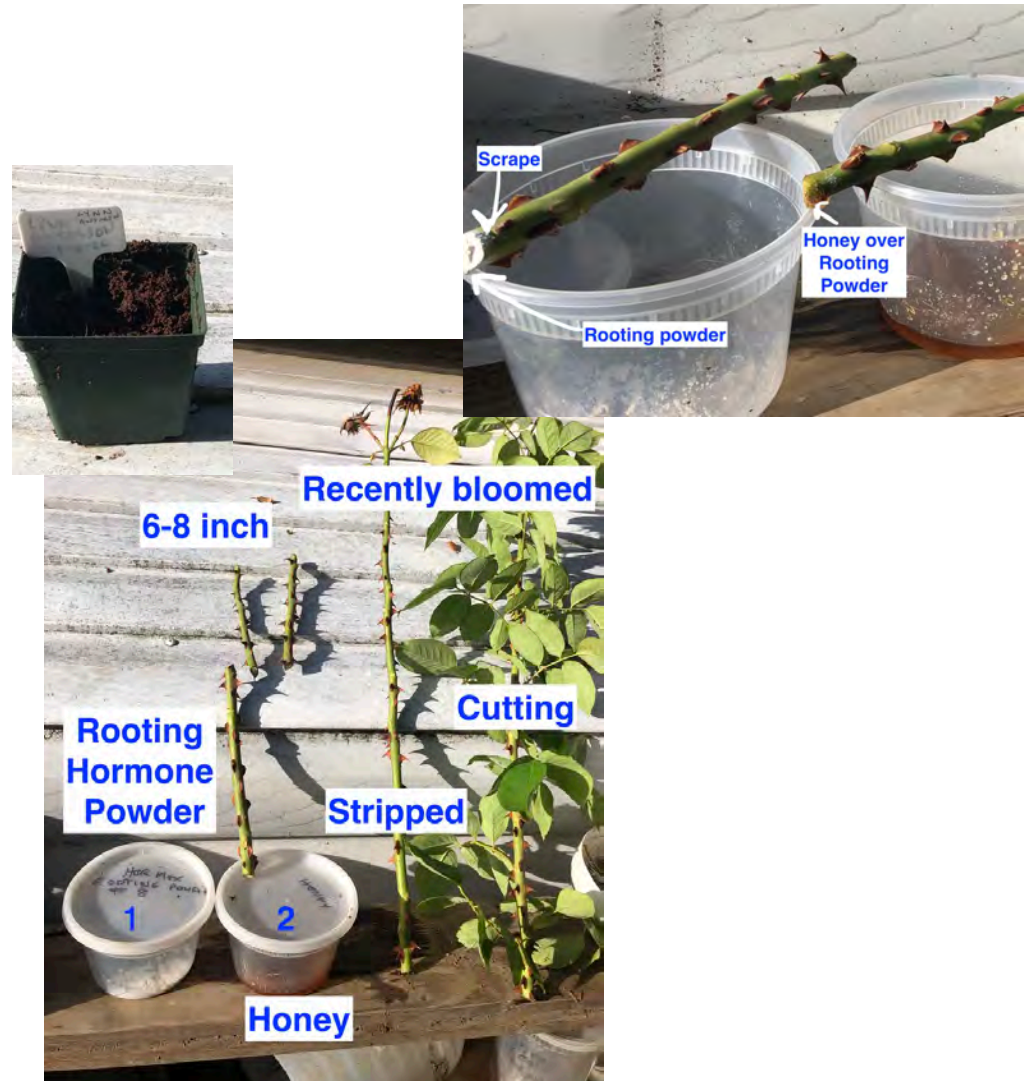
If You Spray

- ***READ and FOLLOW the label!*** Protect yourself and wash up afterwards
- Spray early on a day that is dry, not windy and will be dry for 24 hours
- Spray oils and soaps on a day not exceeding 80 degrees to avoid spray burn
- Spray underside of leaves as well as tops
- Spray ground around the plant



Propagation via Cuttings

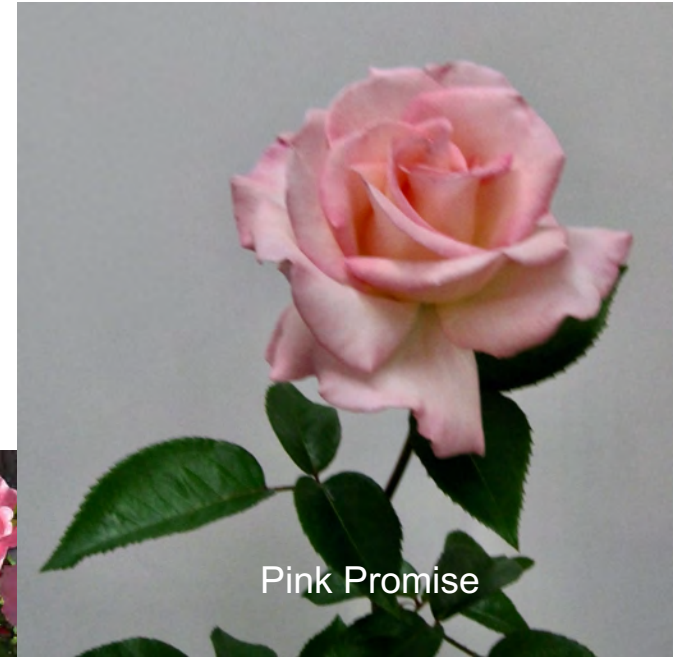
- Recently bloomed
- 6-8 Inch cuttings score bottom
- Keep moist
- Optional Rooting hormone
- Optional Honey



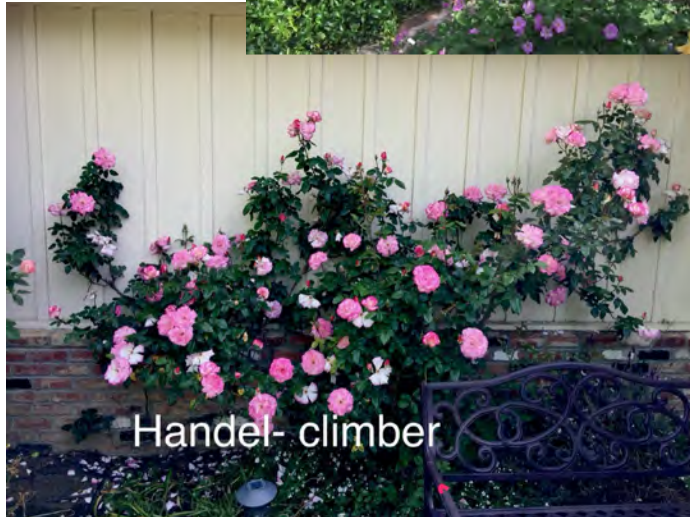
Questions? Ask a Consulting Rosarian



Graham Thomas
Note tip down



Pink Promise



Handel- climber



Clair Matin