

You Just Bought a Tagawa Rose Bush...Now What?

A guide to growing beautiful roses in Colorado that will thrive for years to come



Acclimate Your Tagawa Rose Bush

Tagawa's roses grew up in our climate-controlled greenhouse, and need time to get used to the outside elements before planting.

This can be achieved by keeping the plant in its original pot outdoors during the day over a period of 6-8 days. Start acclimating in a semi-shaded area (morning sunlight is best) for the first 3-4 days; gradually increase sunlight hours for 3-4 more days before planting.

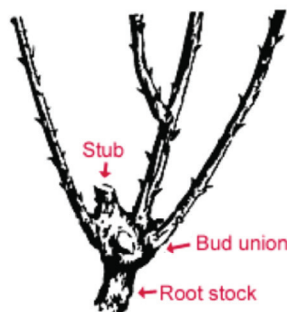
If your rose was purchased prior to Mother's Day, keep the rose outdoors unless freezing temperatures are expected. If freezing temperatures are forecasted, move roses into a garage or inside your home until freeze danger has passed. Do not keep roses indoors for more than a few days.

Planting Tips

- Plant deeply where the graft/bud union is 3" below the soil line.
- Prune back by 1/2 of the plant's height and water deeply.
- Do not fertilize newly-planted roses until next year.
- Be cautious of overwatering for the first few months. Remember to water deeply and infrequently.

Remember to prune 1/2 of the rose's height after planting, including flowers and new growth

- This will encourage the rose to allocate energy to root growth and allows for faster establishment.
- Do not be alarmed if the rose hasn't flowered within the first month.



Grafted Rose



Own Root Rose

At a Glance

Roses bought from greenhouses need to be *acclimated* to the outdoor elements slowly over 6-8 days before being planted.

Sun: 6 hours daily; protect from high winds.

Water: 4-6" per week, check soil for moisture before watering; aim water at soil level, avoiding leaves.

Soil: Amend with compost, 1/3 compost to 2/3 native soil.

Fertilizer: Do not fertilize roses for the first year after planting. Afterward, fertilize once per month.

Pruning: Restrict to growing season only, and use our guide on Page 3 for pruning according to the shape of your rose bush.

Tips for Success

- Roses need at least 6 hours of sunlight to perform best without being exposed to high winds.
- Amend soil with compost when planting new roses. Add one third (volume) of compost to two thirds of soil from your landscape. On sandy soil, use a one to one ratio of compost to soil.
- If planting a grafted (budded) rose in Colorado, the graft should be planted 3" below the soil level for protection from temperature fluctuations.
- For root adaptation, do not fertilize newly-planted roses in their first year. For year two onward, beginning in April, fertilize with a quality rose food once a month. Stop feeding after August 15th to promote acclimation for the coming colder weather.
- Water to a depth of 4-6". Allow newer growth to go slightly limp before another deep watering. Apply 3-4" of mulch to keep the roses from drying out too quickly.
- Pruning during the growing season will depend on the type of rose. A general rule is to look for 5 leaflets facing outward as an indicator of where to cut. Remember to sanitize shears between different plants and not to prune new growth. Make angled cuts with the higher end pointed toward the 5 leaflets/extra stem, as that will help support a new branch.
- If aphids appear, hose off with a strong water stream. Neem oil is a nontoxic solution that smothers aphids.
- Remember to winter water your roses once a month beginning in November. Continue through March. Gradually increase as weather, exposure, and drainage dictate.

Watering Your Roses

Rose bushes usually require about 3" of water per week. This is a general measurement, and it can be difficult to determine if your rosebushes are getting too much or too little moisture.

Everyone has different soil conditions: clay, sand, or somewhere in-between. The hard part is determining how well moisture is being absorbed in your particular landscape and adjusting accordingly.

How can you tell if the roots have been watered well?

To test soil moisture, use a hand trowel to create a wedge-shaped opening in the soil, taking care not to damage roots. Check the soil at 1-2" deep: If dry to the touch and lighter in color, water deeply (4-6"). If cool and moist, wait a couple of days before rechecking.

Track watering frequency, subtracting one day for a general guideline. This method also applies to newly-planted trees and shrubs. Avoid overwatering in hot temperatures to prevent plant wilting.

Don't water because of the heat, water because soil is dry.

Rose Care under Water Restrictions

- Amend your planting area with compost to improve water absorption.
- Roses require 6 hours of sun to flower. If possible, plant in a partly-shaded area of your landscape to slow the drying rate of soil.
- Plant roses together, especially hybrid tea types.
- Wind soaker hoses among rose beds and bury with 4" of mulch. Place mulch 6" away from the trunk of the rose bush.

Pruning

When pruning for the first time of the year, remember the three 'D's

- Cut out any **diseased, dead, or dying stems** first
- Then, remove 1/3-1/2 of the overall rose height to maintain growth vigor.
- After this major pruning, for the rest of the year, only prune for general maintenance, dead-heading, and to promote flowers and new growth.

Pruning Your Roses by Shape



Spreading Shapes

Remove about a third of the length of each stem, cutting to just above an outward-facing bud. The aim is to maintain the natural width and spreading shape of the plant.

Arching Shapes

For roses that bloom once a year, the time to prune is after flowering in the style shown. For rose hips, do not prune. For climbing roses, prune spent bloom clusters in this way. Climbing roses are not pruned back like other roses. Once your climbing rose is 4 years old, prune out 2 to 3 of the oldest canes back to the base in mid-spring and every other year afterward to rejuvenate.

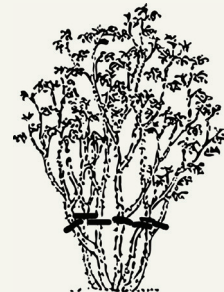


Bushy Shapes

Roses defined as shrubs, old garden, groundcover and miniatures like to be pruned back by 1/3 of their height in mid-spring. Prune right above an outward-facing bud and any weak looking canes.

Bedding Roses

Starting in mid-spring, this type of pruning is ideal for hybrid teas, grandifloras, and English roses. Pruned canes should be 8-12" tall. Cut right above outward facing buds.



Upright Shapes

Roses with this growth habit, like hedge roses, should be pruned by 1/2 of their height to promote bushiness. If the goal is height, prune back by 1/4 to 1/3 yearly.