

# SAN LORENZO GARDEN CENTER

235 River St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060, (831) 423-0223, Fax (831) 426-1260

[www.sanlorenzolumber.com/garden](http://www.sanlorenzolumber.com/garden)

## Easy Steps To Rose Care



Growing roses in Santa Cruz County can be a challenging but rewarding project. Roses need at least 6 hours of sun and preferably southern or western exposure.

### Soil

The soil should have good drainage yet hold enough moisture to meet the needs of these thirsty beauties. Amending your soil with a quality rose planting mix is recommended if the soil is poor.

### Water

Roses should be given a deep root watering once or twice a week until well established. Roses in containers may need more water on hot or windy days. Water plants at the soil level to avoid mildew and other fungal problems. Morning watering is best so the foliage can dry before cooler evening temperatures.

### Fertilizing

Liquid or slow release fertilizers are recommended for the first year. Some fertilizers, like Bayer's Systemic Rose fertilizer, feed roses and protect with a pesticide too.

### Pruning

A good pruning cut slants at a 45-degree angle. Remove old unproductive wood. Cut to outward-facing buds. To encourage repeat blooming, cut off spent flowers above an outward facing growth bud above a five-leaflet leaf.

### Problems

Roses in our area are prone to a few problems that can be treated with a variety of products. To treat fungal problems, such as rust, black spot and powdery mildew, we have a selection of fungicides, including a new non-toxic alternative called Rose Defense which also controls aphids and other insects.