



Lotusland Rose Pruning Guide

Before Beginning

- Make sure tools are sharp to ensure a good, clean cut.
- Bring your pruners, loppers, pruning saw, alcohol spray bottle, eye protection, leather gloves, and garbage can/bucket.
- Remember to sterilize tools between plants.
- Height - Use the stakes to prune each row to the specified height:
 - Julia Child 26", Livin' Easy 32", Hot Cocoa 38"

Plant Shape - Aim for:

- An open, vase shape with an even distribution of canes around the plant
- A center of the plant that is fairly open to allow for good air circulation
- Approximately 7-12 canes per plant, depending on the cultivar

Proper Cuts

- Make cuts with cutting blade down or towards the inside of the plant (to avoid crushing the stem)
- Make 45 degree angle cuts about 1/4 inch above an outward facing bud
- Slope the cut away from the bud, so

that water sheds off the wound and not onto the bud

- Or cut older main stems back to a strong lateral branch, cutting cleanly and squarely across the stem

Remove:

- Dead, diseased, or damaged stems and canes
- Crossing, rubbing, or crowded stems
- Stems that cross the middle of the plant
- Stems that are thinner than a pencil
- Stems that encroach on neighboring plant's space
- Thin, weak, spindly canes
- Old, gray canes, if there are vigorous, young canes to take the space
- Finally, any remaining foliage

Avoid:

- Heavily branched "coat racks" at the top of a cane, if possible
- "Castles" which are the beginning of blind growth
- "Stepped" stems that have been cut back to a lateral branch too many times