Pruning Roses

Today on Gardening in a Minute: pruning roses.

The rose has been cultivated for centuries, and remains one of the world’s most popular flowers.

For roses to thrive, they must be groomed frequently. Selective trimming keeps plants healthy, attractive, and stimulates new flowers.

A major pruning is done once a year during January or February. In South Florida, pruning may be needed twice a year. This pruning allows us to remove dead and dying branches and improves the overall shape of the plant.

Shorten the main canes that are about one to three years old by about half.

To avoid dieback and encourage rapid healing, make pruning cuts just above a dormant bud. When you remove an entire branch, make a smooth cut at the point of juncture. You can expect your first flowers in eight to nine weeks.

For more information about roses and many other gardening topics, contact your county extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.