Pruning Bougainvillea

Today on Gardening in a Minute: pruning bougainvillea.

Bougainvillea is a showy tropical vine that’s popular in Florida landscapes. Like most vines, it benefits from periodic pruning to keep it looking good.

The best time to prune bougainvillea is in late winter or early spring after it flowers, or at the start of the rainy season. If you wait until late summer or early fall, your plant may produce fewer flowers during the following winter.

It’s a good idea to wear heavy gloves, since many cultivars have sharp thorns. Use a pair of pruning shears to cut back any errant branches, and work to give your plant a pleasing shape.

You can even use the smaller cuttings to propagate new plants. If you do, then you’ll be able to share beautiful bougainvilleas with all your gardening friends.

For more information about pruning bougainvillea 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.