

# Pleasant Valley Greenhouse & Nursery, Inc.

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## Roses

We sell quite a few varieties of roses. They are valuable in the landscape because they flower for much of the summer, right up until the October frosts. They come in many different and beautiful colors and many varieties are very fragrant. Roses need to be in full sun most of the day to do the best. You may need to spray roses for Japanese Beetles in late summer.

There are many varieties of roses that are grafted. The graft is found near the soil line and looks like a round ball, that is where the branches start from. In our cold climate, the grafted roses may freeze out in cold winters. ***Grafted roses should be planted deeper, so the graft is 1" or 2" below the soil line.*** This will help protect the graft during the winter.

Other varieties of roses are grown on their **own root** and are **much hardier**. Usually shrub roses, miniature roses, and groundcover roses are grown on their own root.

There are six main types of roses. Three types are very hardy and the other three are not. See the winter protection tips at the end of the article for advice on how not to lose your roses over the winter.

Here is a description of each type:

- ***Climbing Roses*** – These roses are well suited for climbing on a trellis, against the wall of a building or porch. Many of these are grafted, so it is important to follow the planting instructions described above and the winter care tips on the last page.
- ***Floribunda Roses*** – These are roses that produce clusters of flowers, rather than one large flower on each stem. They require the same care as is described above. They are grafted and need special winter care (see the tips on the last page for winter care.)
- ***Grandiflora Roses (Hybrid tea)*** – These are the long stem roses people grow to “cut” and bring inside for vases and arrangements. Many times in our area, some of these can “freeze out” and die over the winter (see the tips on the last page for winter care.)

- **Groundcover Roses** (Hardy) – These roses spread out along the ground making a low “mass of color.” They also are usually grown on their “own root,” which means they are “hardier” and take our cold winters better than grandiflora and floribunda roses. They are a great addition to a sunny part of the garden or a sunny slope because they flower all summer long, right up to the frost. See the winter care tips below.
- **Miniature Roses** (Hardy) – These are lower growing “bushy” roses. These are also grown on their “own root” which means they are very hardy and take our cold winter very well. See the winter care tips below.
- **Shrub Roses (Hardy)** – These are “bushy” types of roses and are well suited for our area. They are usually “hardier” and take our cold weather better than grandiflora and floribunda roses. Some of these are grown on their own root, which means they are not grafted and this is what makes them “hardier” and less likely to die out in our cold winters. See the winter care tips below.

Rose winter protection tips:

In mid-November all types of roses should be prepared for the winter. The less hardy types (climbing roses, hybrid tea long-stem roses, and floribunda roses) are likely to freeze out if not protected. However, all types of roses benefit from protection.

Simply take a dense type of mulch and cover the base of the rose and the canes. Try to get the mulch up about 1’ high on the canes, and 2’ wide at the base of the bush. Most winters the canes will die back from the top to where the mulch starts.

In early-mid April, uncover the bushes and trim leaving only three or four of the strongest canes. Cut the three or four canes back to 10” tall (from the base of the bush) or to where the wood looks green or “alive.” Then fertilize with ¼ cup of 10-10-10 granular fertilizer by sprinkling it on the ground in a 2’ circle around the bush.