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ROSES

Caring for roses is a seemingly endless task yet the results sure make up for it. All good things come with maintenance. The staff at **Woodbury's Garden Center** is ready to help with this high maintenance plant.

Regular upkeep of your roses including the following tips will aid in your success. The upkeep takes patience and commitment, and even with that, challenges are thrown back at you.

1. Consult **Woodbury's Garden Center** for the pruning of specific varieties.
2. Cut the dead and broken branches first. The next step should cut all but five of the leftover healthy branches. The stems should be the thickness of a pencil.
3. Cut the bushes by about one third or one half; this can depend on how tall you want your roses. The buds on the outside of the rose bush are where you should cut. This will help the bud grow upward. The bud will open and receive better air circulation and shape. Remember to keep your cutting tools clean to prevent disease from spreading.
4. Mulching is necessary. It prevents the needs of watering and helps prevent disease. Select an organic mulch, the better the start, the more likely success with roses will come.
5. Some roses survive winter with little protection. However adding a couple inches of soil to the base of your roses adds extra warmth.
6. **Woodbury's Garden Center** does not recommend using cones or protective devices. Give the roses a good chance at getting tough on their own.
7. When it comes to feeding and watering, go lightly. Avoid getting water on the leaves as it increases fungae disease.
8. Circulation and space are necessary. Air moving around the plant is helpful in keeping fungal spores at bay, provides better control when watering and ease of care for you.