

# Planting The Melville Rose's Way

Rose Care Notes Rob Melville-0419964819 [www.rosengardenperth.com](http://www.rosengardenperth.com)

## When to Plant.....

Planting roses may take place at any time of the year however autumn is ideal. In very hot weather it is preferable to plant late in the afternoon. Remember you **MUST water every day when the roses are young, sometimes twice or more if very hot.**

## Where to Plant.....

Roses require a minimum of 6 hours of sun a day to perform their best. Roses are happiest away from invasive tree roots in an open position, they don't like heavy competition but love friends such as other cottage perennials and salvias.

**Watering.....WATER WATER WATER** a minimum of 5 Litres per day for the roses first summer in very hot weather (30o Celsius plus) water at least twice a day, more if they are in pots. Try to water as late as possible in the morning so the water is available.

**Soil Preparation.....**Prepare the hole to a depth of .5m. Use 1 bag of Melville Rose's Planting Mix which contains everything the rose requires

**alternatively a)** half a bag of good quality potting mix and half a bag of sheep manure mixed together per rose bush.

**alternatively b)** if unable to use potting mix use 3 parts sheep manure to 1 part of your existing garden soil.

**How to Plant.....**Having dug the .5m hole add half the bag of potting mix etc and 2 handfuls of 'slow release' fertiliser no other type of fertiliser can be put at the bottom of a plant we recommend Osmocote for Roses (9 month). Place your rose bush into the hole so that the graft is above the soil line, backfill with rest of bag. Stake until established. **Water in thoroughly.** Do not fertilise at this time as you have already applied the slow release **ONLY SLOW RELEASE FERTILISER CAN BE APPLIED UNDER ANY PLANT NEVER QUICK RELEASE FERTILISER OF ANY KIND**

**Mulching.....**Mulching is very beneficial to roses it helps keep the root-run cool, prevents weeds and helps reduce water consumption. After winter pruning we recommend a layer of sheep manure to combat our sandy soils topped off with lupin mulch or pea-hay applied to a depth of 50-75 mm, as the mulch breaks down nitrogen is released into the soil slowly feeding the roses. Other forms of mulch will pull nitrogen out of the soil.

**Fertilising.....**After winter pruning fertilising can commence once the rose has put on about 5cm of new growth. Roses respond well to regular feeding every 4 to 6 weeks. Last feed April mid autumn to get a good flush of flowers then the plants can start slowing down ready for dormancy and their winter prune. An 'all-purpose' garden fertiliser such as Black Marvel should give a good balance of flowers and foliage. 2 handfuls for a two+ year old plant. 1 handful for a young plant sprinkled around the base.

**Standard and Weeping Roses.....**Standards should be firmly secured to a stake strong enough to support the weight of a mature standard or weeper and long enough to pass up through the graft point into the head of the standard therefore securing the top as it will become top heavy as it grows. A metal stake is recommended (star picket).

**Must Pot Up Or Plant in Ground...**When purchasing a plant from 'Melville Roses' the plant is supplied in a pot that is a vessel for us to grow in. The plant must be either potted into a larger pot (minimum 50cm) or planted directly into the garden using premium potting mix, It can't be left in the pot that its grown in it is too small and can't supply the plant with enough nutrition and water

**Staking.....**If your rose leaves the nursery having a stake please ensure you plant it either in the ground or chosen pot with its stake in place. This is to protect the graft and stabilise the root system. We recommend replacing the stake with a stronger one (such as a Jarrah picket) as the plant grows and develops.

**Roses in Pots.....**Things to think about should you decide to put your roses in large pots instead of in the ground. Minimum sized pot 50cmx50cm

- a) They will require more attention and observation as they are the equivalent to a 'bird in a cage'
- b) Remembering this analogy ..... the bigger the bird (ROSE) the bigger the cage (POT)
- c) They are never independent being caged (POTTED) they have no ability to source their own food and water therefore a little extra care is required, but it is worth it :)

#### **Please Note**

All Roses sold by Melville Roses are sent out in good condition. We cannot accept responsibility for any rose that fails through the negligence of care or horticultural inexperience. To attempt to avoid this, all of our roses are despatched with a comprehensive rose care guide. If there is a problem or the purchaser requires advice or assistance at a later date we are only too pleased to help and offer free advice please call us ASAP. All our roses are outdoor plants and are not to be kept indoors at any time.

Flower appearances ie colour may be affected by conditions such as temperature, soil makeup, sunlight etc

Enjoy your garden and beautiful ROSES!!!!