

WINTER

June	Roses going dormant & dropping leaves. Start planting new roses using compost & slow release fertiliser only. Move established roses to new locations if they are in the wrong place or too close together. Prune well before moving.
July	Start pruning roses. Remove all leaves from bushes & rake up all around the rose beds. Do not compost leaves. Use Kocide & White Oil mixed together to spray on bare roses & lightly on ground around bushes to kill all black spot spores. Repeat in 2 weeks time. Report roses into fresh, best quality potting mix with slow release fertiliser granules. Root prune by a quarter as well as pruning top.
August	At end of month feed all roses with Grow Better Organic fertiliser or Blood & Bone or Complete Rose Food. Water in well.

SPRING

September	Full Spring growth. Watch for aphids on new growth. Use Pyrethrum, Folimat or Confidor. When buds start appearing, commence spraying fortnightly with a foliar feed i.e. Charlie Carp, Seasol or Phostrogen. Spray with fungicide for Black Spot.
October	Mulch with lucerne hay or pea straw. Continue foliar feeding. Main flush of Spring blooms later this month. Stake water shoots with bamboo stakes to prevent wind damage.
November	Spring flush continues. Deadhead & enjoy your roses. Take photos. Visit nurseries, Spring Rose Show (Mount Waverley) & rose gardens to get ideas. Visit Morwell Rose Garden, State Rose Garden at Werribee Park, Alister Clark Rose Garden Bulla.

SUMMER

December	Feed with organic fertiliser, top up mulch & deadhead. Water well, especially pots. Prune all once flowering ramblers such as Albertine, Banksia roses & heritage shrubs i.e. Albas, Gallicas, Damasks. Watch for spider mites in dry, hot weather. Try wetting underneath foliage in the early mornings to discourage them.
January	Top up mulch well. Continue deadheading. Minimum watering if you are going to summer trim next month to time flowers for a special occasion or a show.
February	Summer trim all roses if timing flowering for a show or special event. Feed with organic fertiliser & water in well. Top up mulch & water deeply regularly.

AUTUMN

March	Foliar feed as in Spring. Prune winter flowering roses such as Lorraine Lee & Nancy Hayward. Watch for aphids.
April	Autumn flush of roses. Deadhead & enjoy. Prepare soil for new rose beds. Dig deeply, apply manure & compost. Turn over regularly.
May	Some good blooms still. Send away for rose catalogues from specialist rose nurseries & order new roses for winter planting.