

Planting a newly potted Bareroot rose

Find a sunny place to plant. Needs 5-6 hours of direct or indirect sun.

Dig hole 2 ft x 2ft. Throw out the soil. Replace it with a big bag of good potting soil.

Buy one with time released fertilizer and moisture retentive material already in it. Miracle gro, Schultz or any brand is fine.

Tap the sides of the pot on the ground to loosen the rose from the pot

Tip pot and rose into hole. Gently tip rose out. Try not to disturb new white hairy feeder roots if possible.

The bud union, (the place where the cane is swollen and large before the canes and leaves start), should be 4 inches below the top of the hole. This is for winter protection.

Pour soil over the roots and the bud union for now. Mound the soil up half way up the canes. Water it, put more soil on the canes till it's back to halfway up the cane.

Leave soil mounded on cane till new leaves start to poke out from under the soil. When the leaves are nice and big. Wash the soil off the canes with water and the bud union. Pull the soil back so the bud union is open to the air. Pull soil away from the canes in about a 20 inch circle. Mound the soil up around the rim of this circle. Pour some small chips of Pine mulch or finely shredded Cyprus or Pine mulch around this circle. @ inches deep minimum. 4 maximum.

When you water the rose, water inside this circle. Water the soil only. Keep the canes and leaves dry. Roses want at least 2 inches of water a week. That equals 2-3 gallons. More is better when it's extremely hot. Roses like soil that is kept consistently moist. Don't let the soil dry out completely. If your rose is wilting it is way too dry!

When the rose has completed it's first cycle of bloom, feed it. Buy some water soluble rose fertilizer like Miracle Gro, Schultz's, Peters, Vigoro etc. Follow the directions on the label and water it in. Feed it every week. Stop feeding in mid August.

Cut only short stems for bouquets the first two years. A rose takes 3 years to mature.

Stop cutting blooms off mid September. End of October cut the canes down to 12 inches. Push the soil and the mulch over the center of the rose and the canes. Add mulch or leaves to cover the canes. Put a rose cone over it. DO NOT use Styrofoam rose cones. Buy cones that are compressed paper fibers from Jung.

Leave cone on till April 1st then take it off depending on the weather. April 15th pull off the mulch. and soil.. Cut the canes off an inch into the beginning of the green cane. Cut at a 45 degree angle above an outfacing swollen bud eye. Cut off all spindly canes and side growth. Scratch some time release fertilizer into the top of the soil. Water the rose. Add peat moss to cover the canes. Leave just the tips showing. Keep soil and canes moist. Winds can dry and desiccate freshly uncovered green canes.

May 5-10 you can uncover the rose completely if it has leafed out. You can do it earlier if it leafs out sooner and the weather is consistently above 26 degrees.

Once it's fully leafed out you can start feeding it with water soluble fertilizers.