



# Stop Ruining Your Roses: How to Prune Them Properly in Late Winter

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## Why Late Winter Is the Perfect Time to Prune Roses

Late winter is ideal because roses are dormant but about to grow. Pruning now encourages strong spring growth and avoids frost damage.

### Step 1: Observe the Plant

Look for dead, damaged, or crossing branches. Understanding the structure helps guide your pruning decisions.

### Step 2: Remove Dead or Diseased Wood

Cut away brown, brittle, or blackened stems. Always cut back to healthy green wood.

### Step 3: Remove Crossing Branches

Eliminate branches that rub or grow inward to improve airflow and reduce disease risk.

### Step 4: Cut to Healthy Buds

Make cuts just above outward-facing buds to encourage better shape and growth.

### Step 5: Be Bold

Roses can handle heavy pruning. Removing up to one-third of the plant promotes vigorous growth.

## What Happens Next

Expect strong new shoots, better airflow, and more blooms.