

# Roses

Roses in the genus *Rosa* have long been one of the most popular flowering plants in the garden. They are the most ancient plant grown primarily for pleasure (although some types had medicinal and religious ceremonial uses). Our modern roses are thought to be descended from roses from western Asia, particularly Persia. Throughout the past 2000 years, roses have been grown and cultivated for their beauty and fragrance. The earliest *Rosa* species were single 5-petaled flowers in shades of white, pink, red, and maroon. Today the plants in the *Rosa* genus vary widely both in color and form, and new hybrids are constantly being developed as the world continues its love affair with this most romantic of flowers.

Roses are divided into several categories based upon growing habit, flower form, size, usage, etc. The most familiar garden roses fall into the following groups:

<i>Type</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Flower Shape</i>	<i>Fragrance</i>	<i>Bloom Time</i>	<i>Uses</i>
<b>Hybrid Teas</b>	upright, 2-5 ft	large, double, single stemmed	fragrant	ever-blooming	garden, cutting
<b>Floribundas</b>	rounded, bushy, 3-5 ft	smaller, double, clusters of spray	variable	ever-blooming	garden
<b>Grandifloras</b>	large, bushy, 3-6+ ft	large, double, single or clusters	variable	ever-blooming	garden
<b>Miniatures</b>	compact, upright	miniature double, usually bloom single	variable	ever-blooming	containers, edging
<b>Climbers</b>	long canes, 8-15 ft per yr	medium large, usually double flowers in clusters	variable	main bloom in early summer; intermittently through the season	containers, edging
<b>Shrub and “Old Fashioned”</b>	variable	often single, small blooms	often fragrant	usually bloom once early summer	landscape, shrubs

