

ROSE CARE CALENDAR

The Minimalist Approach for Southern California

For Those Who Only Have Time to Do the Bare Minimum Necessary
For Their Roses to Survive and Grow Satisfactorily

By Kitty Belendez
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JANUARY	Prune back rose bushes about 1/2 in height. Remove all foliage Spray with a dormant spray when finished pruning. Clean up all rose debris (leaves, petals) and discard in trash. Plant new bareroot roses.
FEBRUARY	Apply mulch around each bush. Apply Preen granules (on top of mulch) to prevent weeds. If no rain, water roses as needed.
MARCH	Apply 90-day slow-release fertilizer granules, NPK 14-14-14. If no rain, water roses as needed. Spray fungicide to prevent mildew, the 3rd week of the month.
APRIL	Spray insecticide if needed, but only once a month. Wash down foliage twice a week to prevent spider mites, prevent mildew, wash off aphids. Keep roses watered as needed; don't let them dry out.
MAY	Keep roses watered well throughout the month. Remove spent blooms. Make sure automatic sprinklers are working properly.
JUNE	Keep roses watered well throughout the month, daily if necessary. Apply 90-day slow-release fertilizer granules, NPK 14-14-14. Apply Preen granules (on top of mulch) to prevent weeds. Wash down foliage twice a week to prevent spider mites, prevent mildew, wash off aphids.
JULY	Keep roses watered well throughout the month, daily if necessary. Wash down foliage twice a week to prevent spider mites, prevent mildew, wash off aphids.
AUGUST	Keep roses watered well throughout the month, daily if necessary. Wash down foliage twice a week to prevent spider mites, prevent mildew, wash off aphids. Remove all spent blooms to encourage fall bloom cycle.
SEPTEMBER	Apply 90-day slow-release fertilizer granules, NPK 14-14-14. Keep roses watered.
OCTOBER	Spray fungicide to prevent mildew, the 1st week of month. Spray insecticide IF needed, but only once a month. Keep roses watered, as needed.
NOVEMBER	If no rain, water roses twice a week, or as needed.
DECEMBER	Plan for new rose purchases.