

## EASY ROSE CARE CALENDAR For Southern California

For those who only have time to do the bare minimum  
for their roses to survive and grow satisfactorily.

**2015 Dona Martin, ARS Consulting Rosarian**

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**Visit our website for more information: [www.sdrosesociety.org](http://www.sdrosesociety.org)**

- JANUARY** Prune back roses about 1/3 to 1/2 in height. Remove all foliage. Clean up all rose debris (leaves, petals) and discard in trash. Plant new bare root and/or potted roses. If no rain, water roses 1-2 times per week.
- FEBRUARY** Apply 4-6" composted mulch around each bush or across entire bed. Apply Preen granules before mulching or on top of mulch to help prevent weeds. If no rain, water roses 1-2 times per week.
- MARCH** Apply 90-day slow-release fertilizer granules OR other balanced fertilizer **monthly** until Dec. If no rain, water roses as needed, 2-3 times per week. Spray Immunox or Banner Maxx to prevent mildew, mid-month or sooner, at 10 day intervals.
- APRIL** Spray Bayer Rose & Flower Insect Killer insecticide (be sure active chemical is imidocloprid) as directed, if needed. Feed with **fish emulsion** as directed for extra boost. Wash down foliage twice a week to prevent spider mites, prevent mildew and wash off aphids. Keep roses watered 3-4 times per week; don't let them dry out.
- MAY** Keep roses watered well and deeply throughout the month. Remove spent blooms ("deadhead") to promote continued growth and buds. Make sure automatic drips or bubblers are working properly.
- JUNE** Keep roses watered well throughout the month, daily if necessary. \*Apply 90-day slow-release fertilizer granules. Apply Preen granules (on top of mulch) to prevent weeds. Use a water wand to wash down foliage with a **hard spray** once or twice a week to prevent spider mites and to clean foliage.
- JULY** Keep roses watered well throughout the month, daily if necessary. Wash down foliage once or twice a week to prevent spider mites and clean foliage. Deadhead as needed. \*Apply 90-day slow-release fertilizer granules. (Late in month)
- AUGUST** Keep roses watered well throughout the month, daily if necessary. Wash down foliage once or twice a week to prevent spider mites, etc. Remove all spent blooms to encourage start of fall bloom cycle.
- SEPTEMBER** \*Apply 90-day slow-release fertilizer granules. (By mid-month) Keep roses watered. Around mid-month, prune roses back about 1/3, clean up debris.
- OCTOBER** Spray Immunox to prevent mildew, the 1st week of month. Can be sprayed again if needed per instructions. Spray Bayer Rose & Flower Insect Killer (be sure active chemical is imidocloprid) IF needed. Keep roses watered and deadheaded. \*Feed again with slow-release fertilizer or fish emulsion, as directed.
- NOVEMBER** If no rain, water roses twice a week, or as needed. Continue to enjoy your cut blooms!
- DECEMBER** Plan for new rose purchases for your rose beds!

\*Because of our heat, 90-day slow-release fertilizer (e.g., Osmocote) may only last about 60 days, so a two month feeding cycle is preferable. Alternative is 20-20-20 granular fertilizer every six weeks, at half regular rate during the summer.