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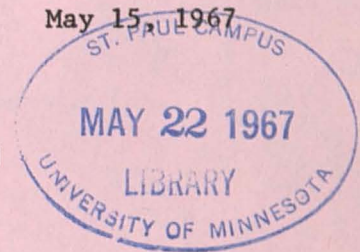
Yard 'n' Garden



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PLANTING IN THE LANDSCAPE

Good soil preparation and careful planting are necessary to grow bedding plants and roses successfully. Proper care at planting time can result in earlier bloom as well as less maintenance.

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Roses are best planted in a garden by themselves. However, if space does not permit, give them plenty of room in a large flower border. Roses need at least a half day of full sun. Morning sun is best.

Roses prefer a deep, fertile soil. They should have at least 2 feet of good loam topsoil.

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Plant roses in the spring as soon as severe cold temperatures are past and the soil can be worked. Make a large hole so the root system will fit without crowding. Be sure to plant the roses so the knob graft union on the main stem is covered by a least 3 inches of soil. Hill the bush with at least 6 inches of soil after planting, and do not remove the soil until new growth begins. Avoid removing the soil on a day that is too hot, dry and windy.

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Prune the roses immediately after planting to a height of 8 to 10 inches. Water the newly planted rose thoroughly to remove any air pockets around the roots. Check the plants often for disease and insects.

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When planting bedding plants such as petunias, it is a good idea to space them at least 12 inches apart to allow plenty of room for cultivation and spread of the plant. First, however, good soil preparation is necessary for healthy roots to develop. After the plants have been placed in the soil, they can be watered with a starter solution made by using 1 tablespoon of a complete fertilizer per gallon of water. Water the plants thoroughly with this mixture.

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Often it's necessary to pinch back newly set plants to get more flowering branches. Pinching back is especially important if the transplants tend to be tall and leggy.

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If the bedding plants have been grown in containers, remove the containers, whether they are tarpaper or peat pots. Peat pots may be peeled back to the soil line and the plant set slightly deeper than it was previously to be sure the peat pot is completely covered.

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Regular watering of a newly planted garden is important until there is a good rain shower or the materials are well on their way to new growth.

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