

## Mulching

Mulching is very useful for growing healthy roses. A 2 to 3-inch layer of compost, bark chips, straw, or similar material discourages weeds, aids water retention and helps keep the roots cool during hot weather. Since some mulching materials will take nitrogen from the soil, replenish it with a high-nitrogen fertilizer.



*Mulching encourages healthy, robust rosebushes.*

## Cultivating

Cultivate roses as shallowly as possible, just breaking the outer crust of the soil. This method will permit air to enter the soil and will not injure any roots growing near the surface. Never allow the soil to become hard at any time during the growing season. If you mulch your plants as described above, you should not have to cultivate at all.

## Transplanting

The best time to transplant roses is in early spring, while they are still dormant. Prepare the planting holes in the new site ahead of time so that the plants will not be out of the ground too long. Prune the bush varieties back to 18 to 24 inches to make them easier to handle. Soak the soil thoroughly the night before, then dig the plants with a soil ball attached and move them to their new location.

# J&P's Quick Reference Chart for Gorgeous Roses

| TIME OF YEAR             | WHAT TO DO  | HOW TO DO IT   |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| Winter                   | Dormant spray.  | Spray roses with lime sulfur or copper-based fungicide to avoid fungal diseases in the spring.                 |
| Late winter              | Prune roses.  | Follow directions on pages 12-15.  |
| Spring                   | Plant dormant roses.  | Follow directions on pages 4-7. Use a balanced rose fertilizer, such as Once, according to package directions. |
| Spring - fall            | Plant potted and Garden Ease® roses.                        |  |
| When roses leaf out      | Fertilize.  |  |
| When roses bloom         | ENJOY!  | Cut bouquets in early morning.   |
| After blooms fade        | Deadhead.   | Remove old blooms. Fertilize.  |
| Summer                   | Water.  | Give roses a deep soak every 3-5 days.   |
| Late summer / Early fall | Last feeding.   | Apply fertilizer 6 weeks before first frost.   |
| Fall                     | Allow plant to set rose hips. Clean up. Protect for winter. | Leave last blooms on plant. Rake up old leaves after hard freeze. Follow directions on page 16-17.             |