



Roses



Botanical name: Rosa hybrida

Family: Roseaceae

Common name: Rose

Country of Origin: China

Available: All Year

Stem Length: 20 to 90cm, usually 30 to 70 cm.

Interesting Facts and Myths

Most scented roses are lilac/mauve, yellow or red (Extase).

After the end of the 3rd Crusade in the 12th century, the crusaders returned to the west with rose plants which were then cultivated by monks in their monastery gardens for their medicinal properties. Rose water was successfully used to cure all kinds of ailments, such as trembling, constipation, drunkenness, skin and throat infections and insomnia. There is some truth in this as we now know Rosa rugosa hips contain high levels of Vitamin C.

In the harems of the Middle East the rose was used as a secret means of communication between lovers who were not allowed to express their love for one another openly. Link. In 1718 Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, the wife of the British ambassador in Constantinople, described this in her letters, which were published after her death. These letters inspired many books on the language of flowers, which was expanded to include many other flowers, each signifying a secret message. A red rose bud stands for budding desire, while an open white rose asks "Will you love me?". An open red rose means "I'm full of love and desire", while an open yellow rose asks "Don't you love me any more?". Pink roses mean 'perfect happiness' or 'believe me'.

The most popular cut flower, the rose is the symbol of England and closely associated with love and St Valentine's Day. Roses are the No.1 selling cut flower worldwide and in Australia and have been for decades. In Holland they outsold the second most popular flower (tulip) by almost 3 to 1 in 2004.

Most cut roses are single stems of the hybrid tea varieties with one flower per stem, but recently spray roses, with several flowers per stem have become more popular. Rose breeding has been going on for centuries. There are now literally thousands of rose varieties with dozens of new cut flower varieties released each year by the major breeders, which include Meilland (France), De Ruiter (Holland), Kordes and Rosen Tantau (Germany) and Jackson & Perkins (USA). Check these breeders' websites for more information.

Cut rose flowers come in every colour and shade except blue or black. Red is by far the most popular colour. For many years new varieties were bred primarily for colour, long vase life, yield (ie number of stems per bush) or pest & disease resistance, so perfume tended to be neglected. This is now beginning to change with several new red, yellow and mauve/purple varieties now available with good perfume and relatively long vase life. 'Extase' (deep red) is a good example of these new varieties.

Roses are almost universally grown in glasshouses where every aspect of the climate (eg temperature, humidity, light, even CO₂ levels) are closely controlled. For commercial reasons, the major growing regions are shifting from the northern hemisphere, eg Holland and USA, to Africa, South America and SE Asia. The vast majority of roses sold in Australia are also grown here as well – mostly in Victoria, NSW and Tasmania.

Types: Hybrid Teas, Sprays

When Buying Look for:

- Flowers should stick straight up from the stem with NO angle;
- Leaves should be dark green and veins should not be prominent;
- Cut stems ends should be green/white, not brown;
- Clean petals with no blotches, spots or creases;
- In winter, avoid bunches with tight buds – they may not open.

Flower Care

Roses are delicate flowers and need special care to last over a week.

1. Keep them cool (ie 1 to 4°C) at all times – this means florists should not display bunches outside the shop.
2. Strip all leaves from the bottom 2/3 of each stem. Removing thorns is optional as it will not improve flower life.
3. Do NOT bash or split stems.
4. Re-cut 2 to 3 cm with sharp secateurs off the stems underwater after purchase, if possible. If you can't manage this re-cut stems one at a time and place in clean water as soon as the cut has been made. Don't leave roses out of water for long – if they are out for more than 20 minutes re-cut each stem again and place in water immediately. Cold water is best for roses.
5. Water MUST be clean. The best way to do this is to use a floral preservative and top up the vase with clean water (+preservative) every day. Replace the vase water completely every 2 to 3 days – don't just keep topping it up.
6. Open tight buds by recutting stems underwater, then wrap the bunch tightly in paper (not newspaper as the ink may stain the flowers), then place the bunch in deep, lukewarm water. Best depth is if the water reaches to just under the flowerheads. Leave to soak for 2 to 3 hours, but check regularly as buds can open fast.



did you know the raceday flower for the spring racing event "Tattersall's Cox Plate" is the cecil brunner rose? Tattersall's Cox Plate, Saturday, 27 October, Moonee Valley

THIS WEEK'S PRICES

NAME	STEMS PER BUNCH	PRICE RANGE
AGERATUM	10	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
ALLIUM - MINI	5	\$3.50
ALLIUM - DRUMSTICK	PER STEM	\$5.00
ALSTROEMERIA	SML - 7, LGE - 10	\$3.00 TO \$6.00
AMARANTHUS	10	\$6.00 TO \$8.50
ANEMONE	10	\$4.00
ANTHURIUM	PER STEM	\$1.50 TO \$3.50
ARABS EYES	5	\$3.50 TO \$4.50
ARUM LILIES	5	\$5.00 TO \$6.50
ASTERS		\$2.00 TO \$4.00
AZALEA	5	\$4.00
BANKSIA - BAXTERI	PER STEM	\$1.20 TO \$2.50
BANKSIA - COCCINEA	5	\$5.00
BANKSIA - HOOKERIANA	PER STEM	\$1.60
BANKSIA - MENZIESII	PER STEM	\$1.40 TO \$1.80
BANKSIA - SPECIOSA	PER STEM	\$1.20 TO \$2.00
BILLY BUTTONS	20	\$3.00 TO \$4.00
BLUEBELLS		\$1.50 TO \$2.00
BLUSHING BRIDE	5	\$3.00 TO \$6.00
BORONIA - BROWN	10	\$5.00 TO \$5.50
BORONIA - PINK	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
BORONIA - BURGUNDY	10	\$4.50 TO \$6.00
CALENDULA	10	\$2.00
CALLA LILY	10	\$6.00 TO \$7.00
CAMPANULA (CANTERBURY BELLS)	10	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
CARNATION HEADS	BOX	\$10.00 TO \$15.00
CARNATION - MICRO	10	\$2.00 TO \$3.50
CARNATION - FIELD		\$1.50 TO \$3.00
CARNATION - SPRAY		\$3.50 TO \$4.00
CARNATION - CHINESINI	10-15	\$2.50 TO \$3.50
CARNATION - FIELD		\$1.50 TO \$2.50
CARNATION - SIM		\$3.00 TO \$4.00
CELOSIA - COCKSCOMB	5	\$4.00 TO \$7.00
CELOSIA - PLUME	5	\$5.00
CHINCERINCHEE	5	\$3.50 TO \$4.00
CHRYSANTHEMUM - DISBUD	5	\$6.50 TO \$8.50
CHRYSANTHEMUM - FIELD		\$2.50 TO \$4.50
CHRYSANTHEMUM - GLASSHOUSE	5-7	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
CLIVEA	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
CORNFLOWER	7	\$3.50
DAFFODILS	10	\$1.10 TO \$2.00
DAISY - SHASTA		\$2.00 TO \$3.00
DELPHINIUM - GIANT	5	\$6.00 TO \$9.00
DELPHINIUM - BUTTERFLY	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.50
EASTER DAISY		\$2.50 TO \$3.50
ERICA - YELLOW & PINK	10	\$4.50 TO \$6.00
ERICA - GREEN	5	\$5.00 TO \$5.50
ERIOSTEMON - WHITE	5-7	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
ERIOSTEMON - PINK	5-7	\$5.50
ERLICHEER		\$1.50 TO \$2.00
ERYNGIUM (SEA HOLLY)		\$7.50 TO \$8.50
EUPHORBIA	10	\$5.00 TO \$8.00
FREESIA	10	\$2.00 TO \$4.50
GARDENIA (HEADS ONLY)	(PER BOX OF 6)	\$21.00
GELEZNOWIA (YELLOW BELLS)	10	\$4.50 TO \$5.00
GERBERA	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
GERBERA - MINI	10	\$2.00 TO \$3.00
GLADIOLI	10	\$8.00 TO \$12.00
GOLDEN ROD (SOLIDAGO)	10	\$2.50 TO \$4.00
GYMEA LILIES	PER STEM	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
GYPSOPHILA - STANDARD		\$3.00 TO \$6.00
GYPSY		\$3.00 TO \$4.00
HEATH MYRTLE	10	\$5.50
HELLEBORUS	5	\$4.50 TO \$5.50
HELICONIA	5	\$6.00
HELICONIA CLAW	PER STEM	\$4.00 TO \$7.50
HELICONIA SEXY	PER STEM	\$7.50 TO \$10.00
HYACINTH		\$4.50 TO \$5.50
IRIS	10	\$4.50 TO \$6.50
ISOPOGON	10	\$4.00
JONQUILS	10	\$1.30 TO \$1.50
KALE	PER STEM	\$4.50 TO \$5.00
KANGAROO PAW - STANDARD	10	\$6.00 TO \$7.00
KANGAROO PAW - BLACK		\$8.00 TO \$9.00
LAVENDER		\$3.00
LEUCADENDRON	5	\$2.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCADENDRON - DISCOLOUR	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCADENDRON - GALAPINI	5	\$4.50
LEUCADENDRON - SAFARI SUNSET	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCADENDRON - SILVAN RED	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCODENDRON - SILVER TREE		\$3.00
LEUCOSPERMUM - REFLEXUM	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.00

NAME	STEMS PER BUNCH	PRICE RANGE
LIATRIS	10	\$7.50 TO \$9.50
LILAC	10	\$6.00 TO \$7.50
LILY OF THE VALLEY	10	\$5.00
LILY - ASIATIC	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LILY - LONGIFLORUM	5	\$5.00 TO \$10.00
LILY - ORIENTAL	5	\$6.00 TO \$13.00
LILY - LA	5	\$5.50 TO \$6.50
LIMONIUM - EMILE	10	\$3.50 TO \$4.50
LIMONIUM - MISTY	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LIMONIUM - STATICE	10	\$2.00 TO \$3.50
LISIANTHUS	7-10	\$6.00 TO \$8.00
LOTUS PODS		\$3.00
ORCHID - CYMBIDIUM	PER STEM	\$13.00 TO \$17.00
ORCHID - SINGAPORE	5	\$4.00 TO \$8.00
ORCHID - TIGER	5	\$11.50
ORCHID - TIGER (DANCING LADIES)	10	\$25.00
PEONY ROSE	5	\$6.50
POKERS	5	\$4.50 TO \$6.00
POPPIES	10	\$2.50 TO \$3.00
PROTEA - KING	PER STEM	\$1.00 TO \$2.00
PROTEA - PINK ICE		\$2.50 TO \$4.00
QUEEN ANNE'S LACE		\$6.50
RANUNCULUS		\$3.50
RICEFLOWER	10	\$4.50
ROSE - 30CM	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
ROSE - 40CM	10	\$4.00 TO \$8.00
ROSE - 50CM	10	\$5.00 TO \$9.00
ROSE - 60CM	10	\$9.00 TO \$10.00
ROSE - 70CM+	10	\$10.00 TO \$11.00
ROSE - MINI	10	\$4.50 TO \$6.00
SEDUM	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
SNAPDRAGON	10	\$2.50 TO \$5.00
SOLIDASTER	10	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
STIRLINGIA (BUD)		\$5.00
STOCK		\$2.00 TO \$3.00
STRELITZIA - BIRD OF PARADISE	5	\$6.00 TO \$10.00
SWEETPEA	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
SWEET WILLIAM		\$2.00 TO \$2.50
TULIPS	10	\$7.50 TO \$9.00
WALLFLOWERS		\$2.50 TO \$4.00
WARATAH - RED	PER STEM	\$2.50 TO \$3.00
WAX FLOWER (BUD)	10	\$3.00 TO \$4.00
WAX FLOWER (OPEN)	10	\$4.50 TO \$5.50
FOLIAGE		
ANDROMEDA (FLOWERING)		\$4.50 TO \$6.00
AZALEA (MOLLIS)		\$4.50 TO \$6.50
BAMBOO	PER STEM	\$2.00 TO \$20.00
BERZELIA LANUGINOSA	5	\$4.50 TO \$6.00
BIXIA		\$6.50
BROOME	4	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
BULLRUSHES	4	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
CORDYLINE	10	\$4.50 TO \$5.00
CRABAPPLE	5	\$5.00
CUMQUAT	10	\$7.00 TO \$8.00
FAN PALM	10	\$5.00
GARRYA	3	\$5.00 TO \$7.00
GERBERA FOLIAGE		\$3.00
GINGER FOLIAGE		\$5.00
GOLDEN ASH BUDS		\$5.00 TO \$6.00
GREVILLIA (FLOWERING - MOONLIGHT)		\$4.00 TO \$5.00
GUM		\$2.50
HYPERICUM BERRIES	10	\$5.00 TO \$8.00
HYPOCALYMA (MYRTLE - GOLDEN VEIL)	30CM (200GM)	\$5.50
JAPONICA (FLOWERING QUINCE)	5	\$5.00
JOEY FERN	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
KANGAROO TAILS	PER STEM	\$3.00
LAUREL		\$3.50 TO \$4.00
LEATHER FERN		\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LILLY PILLY	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
MAGNOLIA FOLIAGE (FLOWERING/BUDDING)	5	\$6.50 TO \$7.50
MOLUCCA BALM (IRISH BELLS)	5	\$4.50 TO \$5.50
MONSTERIA LEAVES		\$6.50 TO \$9.00
PHILODENDRON - XANADU	5-6	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
POLYGALA (FLOWERING)	5	\$3.00 TO \$4.00
PRUNUS (FLOWERING)	5	\$6.00 TO \$7.50
RHODODENDRON BUDS	5	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
RHODODENDRON FLOWERING	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
SILVER SUEDE		\$5.00 TO \$6.00
SNOTTY GRASS	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
SPEAR GRASS		\$2.00 TO \$3.00
THRYPTOMENE		\$2.50
VIBURNUM FOLIAGE		\$3.00 TO \$4.00