

Pruning : Just the Basics

The Tools



Bypass Hand Pruners



Anvil hand Pruners



Lopping Shears



Pruning Saw



Safety Glasses

The Benefits

Annuals

Evergreens

Fruit Trees

Perennials

Roses

Shrubs

Small Fruit

Trees

Vines

The Season

Spring

Summer

Winter

Fall

The Techniques



Heading

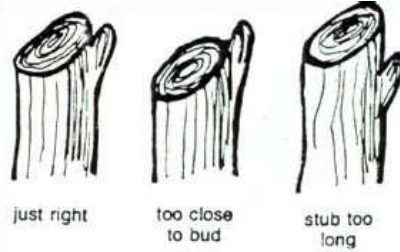
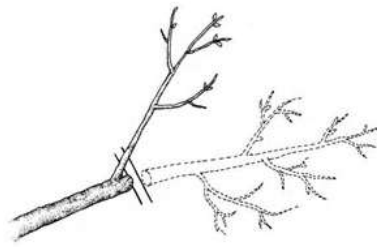
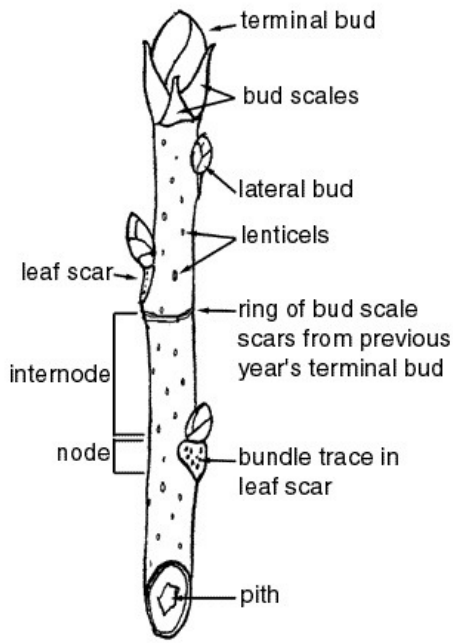


Thinning to ground level.



Thinning back to main branch or trunk.

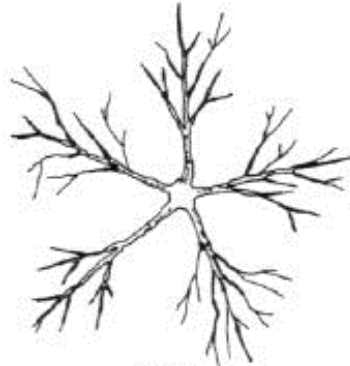
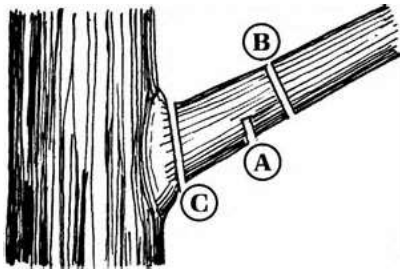
The Cut



When heading back, always make the cut above a healthy bud. A cut on a slight slant, 1/4 inch above the bud is the correct method. The top bud should be located on the side of the branch that faces the direction preferred for the new growth. Some plants will have two buds opposite each other on the stem. When such stems are cut, it is often desirable to remove one of the buds. If both are allowed to grow, a forked and often weak stem may develop.

Tips

- Never remove more than 30% in one season
- Sterilize tools after pruning diseased wood
- Look up— watch for power lines etc.
- Remove dead, broken or crossing first.



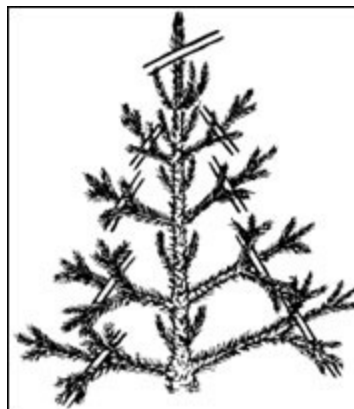
Evergreens



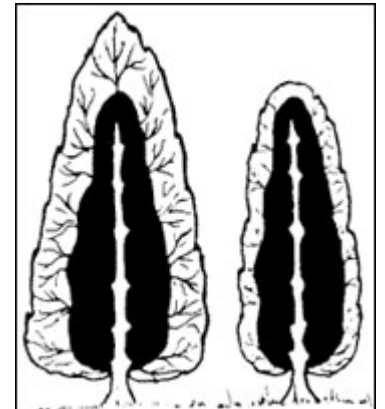
Cut back the Candle
(tight new growth)



Cut to a branch or bud to
keep ascetics

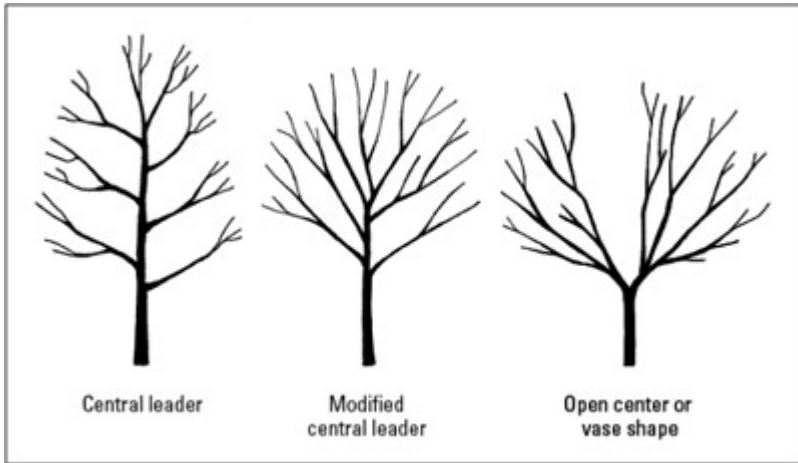


Cut new growth to maintain
size and increase density



Do not cut into the dead
zone.

Pruning Fruit Trees



- Timing
- Spacing
- Fruit type

Apples and Pears

Pruning

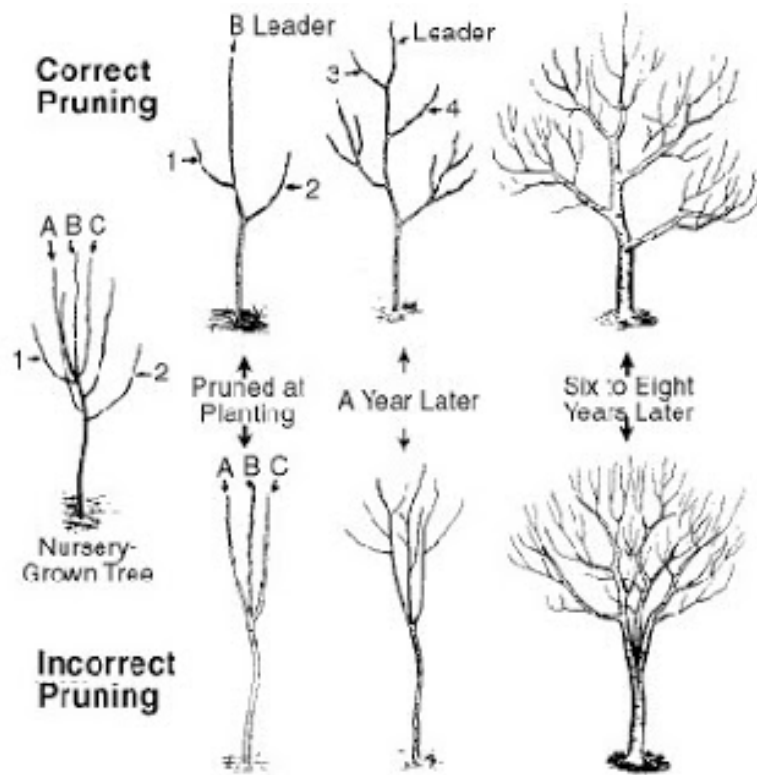
Apple trees are trained to a modified leader system. The tree should be trained with one central leader or main trunk in the center, with several wide-angled limbs spaced around the leader. The tree should mature to a pyramidal shape.

Summer pruning is advised, especially for removing waterspouts, rootsuckers and fire-blight-infected wood. Summer pruning can also be used during the first three years of tree training to produce the desired tree shape. Undesired growth should be removed in early summer or after harvest between late August and early September.

The first three years should be spent on training only, but by the fourth and fifth years, the trees can be allowed to produce a light crop.

Thinning

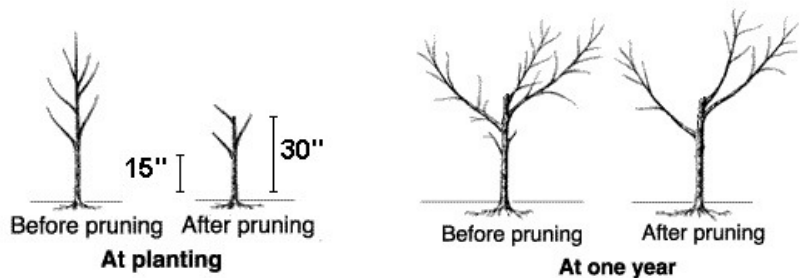
Fruit should be removed by hand to one or two per cluster. Space fruiting clusters about every 6 inches along the limb. To remove the fruit without damaging the spur or other fruit on the spur.

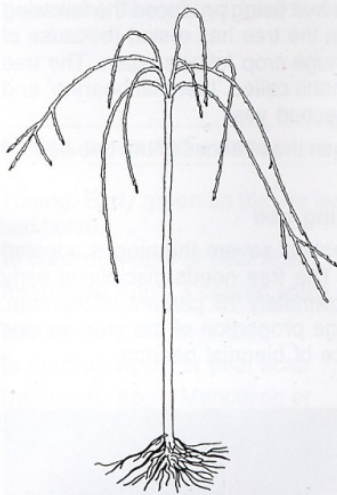


Peaches, Apricots and Nectarines

Pruning- Peaches are usually trained to an open-center system

Thinning- Hand-thin the tree about four weeks after full bloom, spacing the peaches about 6 inches apart on the limb.

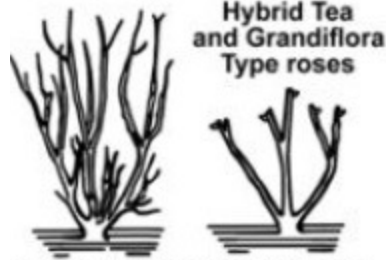




■ A newly purchased weeper (during winter). Unpruned.



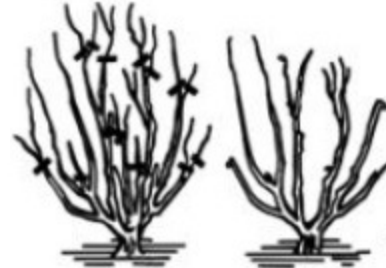
■ Pruned, ready for planting.



Remove weak, diseases or spindly wood and leave three to five of the most vigorous canes.



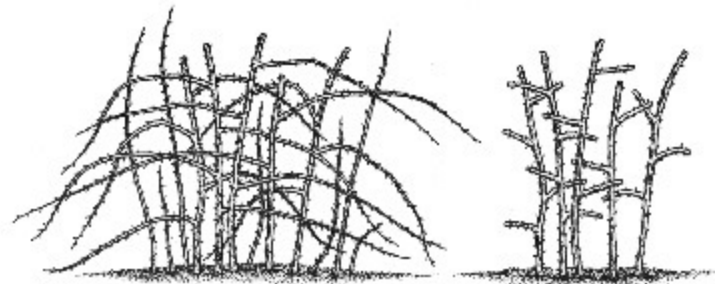
Prune climbing roses after the first flush of bloom.



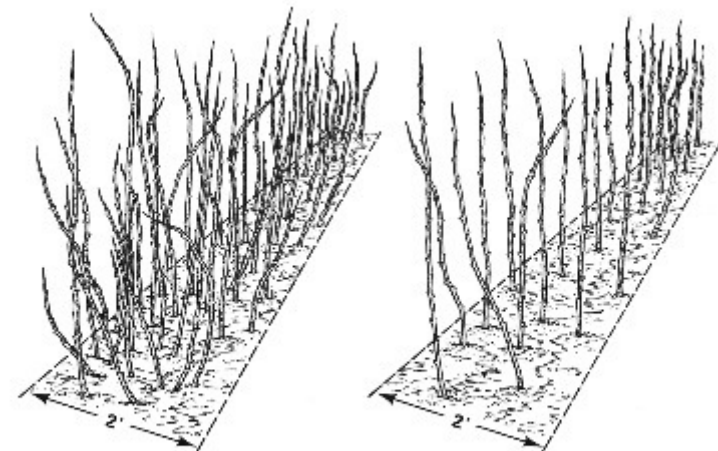
Floribundas are not pruned as heavily as hybrid teas.

Floribunda Type Roses

Notes



Spring pruning of black and purple raspberries



Spring pruning of summer-bearing red raspberries