


When some people think of using roses in their home landscapes they envision them in a place of prominence, serving as a colorful, focal point or accent. Some folks visualize roses as only being suitable for a formal garden or used as the rose in this pix. Roses ARE the Queens of the Garden! Nevertheless, roses have many functions in the landscape other than being the Queen of the Garden Party! Roses can be some of the most versatile plants in your home landscape. These plants because of the wide variety of growth habits, sizes, colors, and textures can fill any niche in the home landscape. As long as the site is right there is no reason you can't have roses in all parts of your garden. Now, let's look at some of the many ways we can use roses.


As we talk and show examples of each of these uses we will touch on some general landscape design techniques and procedures.



Some landscape designers use the term accent and specimen interchangeably to describe certain plants that are so dramatic and eye-catching that they are best used alone or in judicious combination with other less spectacular plants. Other landscape professionals use the term accent to describe a plant or group of plants used to draw your attention to a particular area of the landscape (driveway, residence or garden entrance for example) Plants used for accent should possess one or more distinctive attention-getting characteristics. They should be outstanding in form, texture, size, color, or a combination of such qualities. Pictured Gartendirektor Otto Linn, modern shrub rose, 1934, no fragrance.



For purposes of this presentation we are going to consider a specimen as a plant that stands out in the landscape due to some spectacular characteristic. Specimen roses should be positioned to be viewed as an individual or where the plant stands out among other plants. Tree roses are a good example of a specimen, due to their unique, unusual form. The Lady Banks rose on the arch in this otherwise sparse landscape is a standout when in flower.


Foundation plantings consist of a plant community of similar requirements, such as water, soil pH , and exposure. Consist of small to medium evergreen shrubs, ground covers, and seasonal color plants. Many types of roses are suitable for foundation plantings. Just remember that these are seasonal showy plants, so plan for greenery in the winter.
Typically use 80 percent evergreens and 20 percent deciduous or herbaceous plants to comprise the foundation planting.


Veilchenblau, rambling rose, at end of tennis court, helps muffle shouting, stomping, players. Doesn't matter that this plant is deciduous as who would be playing tennis in the winter time!


Rose plantings such as this not only screen your house from the street, but also absorb sounds from the street


Climbers and ramblers are great choices to add interest to otherwise plain walls and fences. Left: Wall of 'Seven Sisters' . Can you imagine how bland and uninteresting this wall would be w/o the rose.


Ugly concrete brick wall is going to be much more attractive when the roses fill out. We'll talk about arbors in a minute-but let me point out one thing. It is always pleasant to provide seating under an arbor that is planted with a fragrant rose!


Trellising or treillage of roses is an easy and can be economical way (if you build your own) to add structure and attractiveness to your garden. Using ramblers or climbers on trellis can provide shade, privacy, screening, or accent in the landscape.

## Arbor/Arch/Pergola



Photo credit: Marilyn Wellan


Photo credit: Lelia Kelly

Arbors /Arches/Pergolas are major landscape features and careful consideration should be given to their location. An arch usually provides an entrance/exit to an area and it should be situated such that it invites the viewer into or out of the garden. It is very important that the entire structure be in scale with the surrounding landscape. Arbors and pergolas usually provide seating and or dining areas and should be situated such that the view is considered from inside the structure as well as the view of the structure from the landscape, house, etc.

## Arbor/Arch/Pergola



Photo credit: Marilyn Wellan


Old roses and large shrub roses can make excellent hedges along property lines. Act as barriers for neighbor children, animals, etc.



Roses provide screening from neighbor. Roses are part of planting that serves as a screen around this outdoor dining area. Provides privacy.


Large shrub roses act as background plants for the perennials in the foreground.


Loose, rambling, spreading shrub or trailing roses make excellent ground covers. Because roses prefer well-drained soil using these types on roses on slopes or banks is a great way to control erosion as well as beautify.


Container plants add versatility to the landscape. They can be used for seasonal color, are portable, and can be used in situations where plants otherwise could not be planted to provide an accent-like in the areas in these pictures.


Scarlet Meidiland edging for shrub border. Pink Simplicity, /Dames Rocket and Chives provide a colorful edging for the driveway.


Some of us feel that any color goes together when we are designing our landscapes. We tend to be more relaxed and natural in our approach to gardening. Some of us are color blind. Others of us have a more organized design approach and use the color wheel as our guide. Both approaches are just fine. It's your yard. However, if you want that riot of color effect with your roses, the impact will be greater, especially in smaller areas, to plant in groups of at least three of the same color. If you have a large area, use bold sweeps of color in every hue you can find! Big bold colors stand out better if the different colors are separated with white blooming plants.


Mixed colors in foundation planting.


Muhly grass, dwarf pampas and rose


Mixed border of perennials and shrub roses-mainly pastels (pink). Don't know what you like? Take notes as you visit other gardens on the color/plant combination that appeal to you.


## Garden Design

- Formal symmetrical, geometric lines and shapes


Introduction to Growing and Enjoying Roses
The American Rose Society Gulf District and Mississippi State University Extension Service


Formal terraced garden.


Formal rose garden with gazebo



Wild and free approach.





Photo credit: Steve Fenner

## Cottage/Kitchen Garden



Island Bed


## Vegetable Garden Edging




Nice, attractive solution to soil problems-rise above your problems!


Roses combine with any other plants-grasses, evergreens, perennials, annuals you name it!


Pink Simplicity with chives.



