



### 1 Country casual

This lovely climbing rose, 'Albertine', on the front of an old mill house, just softens the architectural lines. It's a very good choice, because this isn't a grand house and Albertine's warm, pink and rather floppy flowers perfectly complement the country feel.

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Arne Maynard is a leading garden designer based in London and Monmouthshire

## Roses

With such a wide range of beautiful roses available, there are many different ways of featuring them in your garden

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**2 Extending the flowering season**  
Clematis and roses make good growing partners, particularly the small-flowering viticella clematis as they flower late in the season. Every year they should be cut back so they don't compete.

**3 Form and focus**  
A close-up of the planting within the rose beds at Guanock House, Lincolnshire, showing how the copper beech pyramid gives an architectural focus that holds the softer shapes of the roses and the floating heads of the Crambe cordifolia together.

**4 Well composed**  
The rose garden I designed at Guanock House is seen from upstairs and structured to look good all year round. Roses are trained on domes and herbaceous planting is a cottage-style mix of Crambe, campanulas and centaurea.

**5 Moss rose**  
'William Lobb' is a tall and vigorous moss rose, good for backs of borders. It could easily be grown in a semi-wild style in long grass. The dark crimson flowers fade to shades of mauve and violet and are richly scented.



## 6 Charming favourite

Climbing 'Cécile Brunner' is a popular and vigorous rose, flowering only once in the season, but reliably producing a mass of gorgeous, tiny, shapely blush-pink blooms that festoon the plant.



## 7 Walls and hedges

Old rambler *Rosa cooperii* is a very beautiful single white rose with glossy dark green foliage, that does best in sun. Here it has been trained on a house wall, but allowed to arch over and flop down on to a hedge.



## 8 Abundance

Planting in the English romantic style. The exuberant rose 'Echell' has been trained on the façade of a Georgian house. A wide border contains roses on hazel domes and a casual mix of herbaceous planting in pastel shades.



Whenever possible, I like to grow roses in a separate area of the garden, because there is something magical about entering a space full of their perfume. Then, because they don't look good all year round, they are out of sight when not in season.

Rather than growing them in bare earth, my personal taste is to mix them with herbaceous plants and a limited palette is best: foxgloves, heperis and astrantias work beautifully together. Where there's space, I'd grow *Crambe cordifolia* for its honey scent and huge heads of tiny white flowers that are out in June at the same time as

the roses. You can extend the season into late summer by selecting species roses with beautiful hips and growing asters among them. This has the advantage that when you're spraying roses for black spot and mildew, you're treating the asters, which are prone to the latter, at the same time.

I grow roses of varying heights and vigour together, using lower-growing shrubs such as 'Maiden's Blush' with moss roses that grow taller and more naturally, and these I'll often train on to hazel domes, wrapping the long shoots around the structure like a form of topiary. Most old-fashioned varieties have a single, short



## 9 The romance of the rose

These arches in long grass are clad with cream and pink roses to create formality in a wild way. It's how I imagine the secret garden in Frances Hodgson Burnett's novel might have looked when Mary discovers it. Roses 'Lykkefund', 'Climbing Iceberg' and 'Climbing Cécile Brunner' all create a similar effect.

## Stockists

**Peter Beales** has an incredible selection, a three-acre rose garden (with a rose festival 23-24 June) and a very useful catalogue. Peter Beales Roses, London Road, Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 1AY. Tel 0845 481 0277. [www.classicroses.co.uk](http://www.classicroses.co.uk)

**David Austin** has a two-acre rose garden with The National Collection of English Roses at Albrighton. David Austin Plant Centre, Bowling Green Lane, Albrighton, Wolverhampton WV7 3HB. Tel 01902 376334. [www.davidaustinroses.com](http://www.davidaustinroses.com)

## Guanock House

A five-acre private garden in Lincolnshire, designed by Arne Maynard, opens for the National Gardens Scheme on 10 June. [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk)

flowering spell, so I may add longer-flowering modern cultivars. Of course, not everyone has space for a formal rose garden and the other lovely way to grow them is casually, cottage garden style, with shrubs and herbaceous flowers.

For walls, there are climbers and ramblers. Climbing roses such as 'Albertine' are more rigid than ramblers and so best for formal training, on, for example, a house wall. Ramblers such as 'Rambling Rector' or 'Wedding Day' have long, arching stems good for covering garden buildings or scrambling into trees and hedges, but less suitable for wall training.

A pretty way to grow vigorous roses is in the more natural setting of long meadow grass and this is what I'm doing at my garden Allt-y-bela using roses, including the modern shrub rose 'Nevada', that are strong and healthy enough to compete with the grasses. In the same spirit, I'm planting climbing 'Madame Alfred Carrière', with its blowy white flowers, against the old native hawthorns that are growing along my driveway. It's a rose that isn't so rampant that it will harm the trees, and the effect will be of an old cottage garden that's been left to go its own way. □

NEXT MONTH Cutting gardens