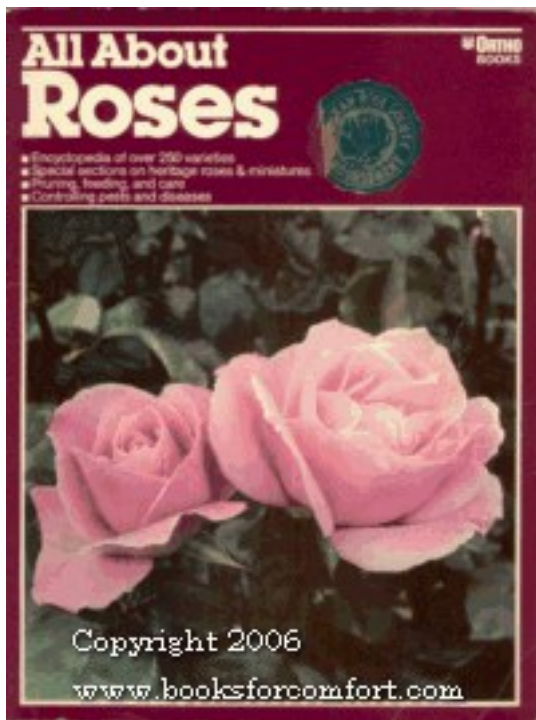


All about roses



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 ROSES HAVE BEEN CULTIVATED
 FOR CENTURIES IN MANY LANDS.
 The rose is often proclaimed TODAY S
GARDENER CAN CHOOSE
 \"Queen of the Flowers\" by gar- FROM A WIDE
SELECTIONi¼¢ FROM the types of ri¼¢i¼¢ses grown ln
 those countriesi¼¢ or
the lnctl~i¼¢t>ds
 denersi¼¢ and there are few OLD FAVORITES TO NEW
EXAMPLES of their cultivation. The an-
 flowers that can make a better OF THE
HYBRIDIZER S ART. cient Persians established a
 claim to the title. Roses are
 flourishing trade in precious at-
 grown primarily for the beauty tar of rosesi¼¢ a
flagrant oil dis-
 and fragrance of their flowersi¼¢ tilled from rose petalsi¼¢ so

they which can be found in an astonishing array of shapes and must have been adept at rose cultivation. sizes and in almost every color of the spectrum. Roses have The ancient Greeks cultivated roses extensively/---f~r
 been tended and enjoyed by generations of modern-day the beauty of the flowersi¼ for medicinal purposesi¼ and as a
 gardenersi¼ and their lineage under cultivation stretches perfume. The rose was dedicated to two deities: Aphroditei¼
 back many hundreds of yearsi¼ the goddess of love and beauty; and Dionysusi¼ the god of
 Species of the genus Rosa have been identified almost revelry. Wreaths and garlands of roses were prominentbi¼.
everywhere in the Northern Hemispherei¼ as far north as featured at festivals in their honor
Alaska and Norway and as far south as North Africa and It was during the peak years of the Roman Empire (the
Mexico. Fossilized plants over 30 million years old can be first three centuries after the birth of Christ) that ni¼~e
linked to modern rose speciesi¼ cultivation reached its peak in the ancient world. The
 The Chinese were probably the first to cultivate roses. Romans imported roses from Egypt. Thei¼i¼ also established a
Five hundred years before the birth of Christi¼ Confucius thriving rose-growing industry at Paestumi¼ south of Rome.
wrote of the roses in the Imperial Gardens. Roses had been Methods were developed to force roses into bloom during
under cultivation in China for over 2i¼000 years before winter by growing them in greenhouses or by irrigating
Chinese roses were introduced to the European market in plants with warm water. Private rose gardens were univer-
the late eighteenth centuryi¼ sal for the nobility and the richi¼ and large public ruse
 The seedbed of European rose growing was in the Middle gardens were frequented and enjoyed by tbe populace.
Easti¼ in Persia and Mesopotamiaï¼ but little is known about The poet Horace half-jokingly expressed concern that
~ the amount of land devoted to roses might produce a
 shortage of grain. Typically excessivei¼ the emperor Nt.ni¼
Left: Hybrid tea Colcrr Magic i¼ the 1978 All-America Rose spent vast sums of money to cover his guests with ros~.
Selectioni¼ sports magr~ificent double bloomsi¼ petalsi¼ which he arranged to have fall from the ceilmv.
Above: Hardy Rosa rugosa perfumes the air with its During tim first century A.D.i¼ Pliny the Elder described
Ira*fusion of flowersi¼ several different species of roses in his Natural Histoo..
THI ~ HISI-ORY AN[] DEVELOPMFN 1\ " OF THE ROSE
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