

Pruning Clematis



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Clematis is one of the most exquisite flowering vines grown in Ohio, with different bloom characteristics among varieties. This presents a challenge since pruning times and methods are different with bloom time. This chart should help you prune your clematis correctly.

Pruning Group One

Most of these clematis varieties bloom in early spring, and flower on old wood. Prune immediately after flowering, down to 3 feet. Cut back any dead or weak stems to the ground.

cirhosa 'Freckles'
macropetala 'Blue Bird'
montana

montana 'Elizabeth'
montana rubens
montana wilsonii



Pruning Group Two

These varieties bloom late spring to autumn, flowering early on old wood with some reblooming on new wood. Cut back in March to 1 foot the 1st year and 3 feet the 2nd year. Thereafter cut back all stems to a strong pair of buds. Cut weak or dead stems to the ground.

'Barbara Jackman'
'Bee's Jubilee'
'Belle of Woking'
'Carnaby'
'Crimson King'
'Duchess of Edinburgh'
'General Sikorsky'
'Guernsey Cream'

'Henry'
'Lincoln Star'
'Miss Bateman'
'Multi Blue'
'Nelly Moser'
'Niobe'
'Purple Select'
'Ramona'

'Snow Queen'
'Sunset'
'The President'
'Vyvyan Pennell'
'Warsaw Nike'
'Will Goodwin'

Pruning Group Three

These clematis varieties bloom mid-summer to autumn, and flower on new wood. Prune these varieties to 1 foot in March the 1st year. Thereafter cut back to the base of the previous year's growth, within 18 inches of the soil between the first killing frost and March.

'Arabella'
'Comtesse de Bouchard'
'Ernest Markham'
'Hagley Hybrid'
'Jackmanii'
'Lilacina Floribunda'
'Pink Fantasy'

'Rhapsody'
'Rouge Cardinal'
'Star of India'
paniculata (*terniflora*)
tangutica
texensis 'Gravetye
Beauty'



viticella 'Alba Luxuriens'
viticella 'Etoile Violette'
viticella 'Madame Julia
Correvon'
viticella 'Polish Spirit'