

# Santa Clarita Valley Rose Society

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## Types of Roses

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*Hybrid Teas, Grandifloras, Floribundas, Polyanthas, Miniatures, Shrubs, Climbers, and Old Garden Roses*

*By Steve Jones*

When you purchase any new rose, it is helpful to know something about each type of rose, its growth habits, size, type of bloom, etc. Some require more care than others, and some are best left alone. These are the different types of roses.

### Hybrid Teas

When most people think of a rose, they are thinking of hybrid teas. Normally a hybrid tea has a large bloom at the end of a long cane. They are the most popular roses sold at florist shops. They are generally upright growing plants from 3-6 feet and the blooms come in most colors, except blue and black. Examples include Double Delight, Mr. Lincoln, St. Patrick, Veterans' Honor, Gemini, and Brandy.

### Floribundas

The floribundas were once called hybrid polyanthas. In the 1940s, the term floribunda was approved. They are usually smaller plants with smaller blooms that tend to come in clusters. There are some where the bloom comes singularly. The cluster types make great landscape plants. Comes in most colors. Examples include Iceberg, Angel Face, Playboy, Playgirl, Simplicity, Sexy Remy, and French Lace.

### Grandifloras

The grandifloras are allegedly a combination of hybrid teas and floribundas with some one-bloom stems and some cluster blooms. The grandiflora term was coined by nurserymen for the rose Queen Elizabeth, which was introduced in 1954, even though Buccaneer could have been argued as the first of this type of rose. The term grandiflora still remains, however, the term is losing distinction over time and could easily disappear. Examples include Queen Elizabeth, Gold Medal, and Arizona.

### Miniatures

Miniature roses are roses that are smaller in bush, foliage and bloom size. The blooms can range from 1/2-inch up to 2 inches. Miniatures are very popular and can be grown in containers. The plants range in size from about 1-3 feet. Examples of miniatures include Behold, Fairhope, Irresistible, Kristin, and Miss Flippins.

### Mini-Floras

Mini-floras are a new classification. They are too large to be a mini, but could be too small for a hybrid tea or floribunda. I find most of the mini-floras to be awkward in the landscape. Examples of mini-floras are Cachet, Autumn Splendor, Dr. John Dickman, and Butter Cream.

### Climbing Roses

Climbing roses are mostly very vigorous roses that can grow to great heights. There are three general types. Large flowered climbers (LCI) are more modern and have stiff canes and usually have good repeat bloom. They can range in size from 8-20 feet. The blooms come in many colors and can have blooms singularly or in clusters. Examples include



Hybrid Tea 'Gemini'



Floribunda 'Playgirl'



Floribunda 'Sexy Remy'



Grandiflora 'Gold Medal'

