



Pruning in early spring allows plants to recover quickly and stimulates growth. Early spring is the best time to prune summer-flowering trees and shrubs. Spring flowering plants and shrubs should be pruned after they have flowered in the early spring. Prune each type of plants the same way, just at different times.

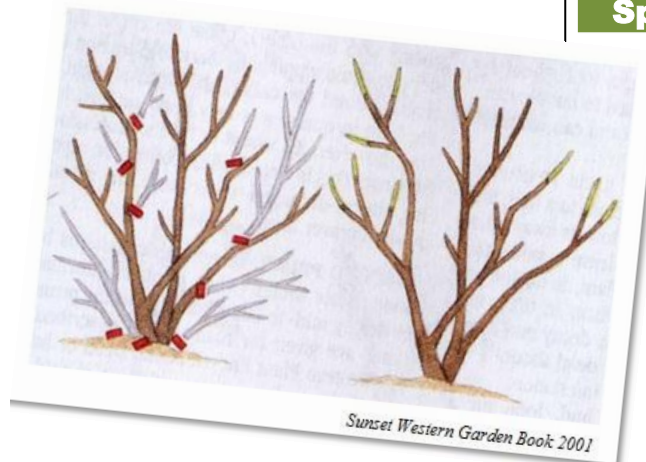


Miracle-Gro Guide to Growing Stunning Trees & Shrubs

1. Cut off any dead, black, diseased or damaged branches and any mulch you put down over the winter. Dead leaves, leftover plant tops, weeds, decaying plant material and any other debris can harbor bugs and fungi.

2. Next, remove any weak or spindly canes or branches. This will allow the stronger ones to grow. Anytime two canes are crossing or rubbing, cut off the smaller, weaker of the two.

3. You'll want to remove about 1/3 of the old wood down to the ground. This will encourage new and better growth from the ground up. It also opens up the interior of the plant to more light and air.



Summer Flowering Shrubs

Butterfly Bush
Blue Mist Spirea
Hancock
Mockorange
Potentilla
Bumald
Japanese Pirea

Spring Flowering Shrubs

Forsythia
Nanking Cherry
Quince
Viburnum
Beauty Bush
Lilacs
Honeysuckle
Wigela
Peashrub
Bridalwreath and
Vanhoutte spireas