Softwood Rose Cuttings

Softwood Cuttings are taken from the current season’s growth, and are best taken in spring or early summer so that they may grow a substantial root system before going dormant in winter.

1. Prepare Container.
   - Use a flat or a plastic pot.
   - Clean well and soak in a 10% bleach solution for at least 10 minutes.

2. Prepare rooting mix
   - Use half vermiculite and half clean, coarse sand
   - Other mixes will work also, pure perlite, perlite and sand, vermiculite and perlite.
   - Wet the mixture, avoid breathing the dust.
   - Fill the container almost to the top to provide good air circulation.

3. Collect Cuttings
   - Pencil Sized 6 - 8” long, partially hardened with a flower or finished bloom.
   - Keep Hydrated.
   - Cutting should have at least 4 nodes, with at least 2 leaves on top.

4. Prepare Cutting
   - Trim bottom flat just below a node
   - Cut the top at an angle just above a leaf. Try to have at least 2 leaves above the soil level.
   - Keep Hydrated! Float them in a container of water.

5. Rooting Hormone
   - Use powder or liquid hormone.
   - Follow instructions on the package.

6. Insert and Cover
   - Make a hole or holes in the wet rooting medium with a pencil or other tool. Plant tissues can be damaged by pushing them into the medium.
   - Insert the cutting so that at least two nodes are buried, but not so deep a to hit the bottom of the container.
   - Water from the bottom, soak the pot in a bowl or sink.
   - Cover with the top of a large clear plastic soda bottle, bottom cut off, top unscrewed.
   - Keep warm but out of direct sun. Remove bottle and mist once in awhile.
   - Roots should appear within 10 - 14 days.
   - Just because you see top growth does not mean the roots have formed.
   - The leaves may yellow and fall off, but don’t give up!
   - You can check for rooting with a gentle tug on the cutting.