To plant a rose in Merriwa, WA, dig a hole 40 cm wide and 30 cm deep. Mix your excavated sandy soil 50/50 with the Scotts Osmocote Rose, Gardenia & Azalea Potting Mix. Line the hole, position the rose so the graft union sits just above the soil line, backfill, firm gently, and water thoroughly.

Digging and Preparing the Hole

- **Find a spot**: Pick a sunny place with at least 6 hours of sun each day.
- **Dig the hole**: Make it about twice as wide as your rose's root ball and roughly 30 cm to 40 cm deep.
- **Loosen the base**: Fork or break up the dirt at the bottom of the hole so roots can push through easily.

Blending the Soil and Potting Mix

- **Mix 50/50**: Combine equal parts of the native Merriwa soil you dug out with the Scotts Osmocote Rose, Gardenia & Azalea Potting Mix.
- **Check the benefits**: This specific mix helps acidic needs and retains moisture well in sandy WA conditions thanks to wetting agents and controlled-release nutrients.
- **Line the base**: Throw a 5 cm layer of your mixed blend into the bottom of the dug hole.

Positioning and Planting the Rose

- **Soak the plant**: Water your potted rose thoroughly a few hours before you move it.
- **Set the height**: Take the rose out of its container. Place it in the hole. Make sure the bump on the lower stem (the graft union) sits about 2 cm to 5 cm **above** the final soil line, never buried.
- **Backfill**: Fill the space around the root ball using the rest of your soil and potting mix blend.
- **Firm down**: Press the dirt down gently with your hands or feet to get rid of big air pockets.

Finishing Up

- **Water deeply**: Soak the base with plenty of water straight away to settle the dirt.
- **Add mulch**: Put a 5 cm layer of organic mulch around the base to keep the roots cool, but keep it clear of the main stem