

Review of "How to Prune" , John Cushnie.

This is a reference book but you can still read it from cover to cover and enjoy it. The illustrations are wonderful and the writing style is clear. Everything is covered - including root pruning. We all see pruning as a means of holding in check the plants that are starting to outgrow their place in the garden. How about half ring barking as an alternative to getting out the shears? It's all in this 256 page volume. Even your vineyard is taken care of!

The main body of the book addresses pruning in general as well as approaches to subjects such as roses, bamboos, clematis and fruit trees for example. At the end of the book is a directory of specific plants and their special pruning needs. It's all so wonderfully presented. This is not a make work book. Rather it is a time saver. It tells you what to do, when to do it and what results you will achieve. With such carefully designed actual photo illustrations it is impossible to mess up any pruning task. Readers can expect to improve their pruning skills in very short order and even really enjoy doing it with the help of this masterpiece.

*Bryan Taylor, May, 2011*