

Answer Key

1. True or False if trees are properly trained when young they will need little pruning when mature.
2. True or False If frequent pruning is required to keep plants within bounds; you should consider replacing the plant with a larger growing tree or shrub.
3. What are the tools a homeowner will need to do proper pruning?
Lopping shear, hand pruner, folding saw for tight places, bow saw for limbs and, leather gloves.
4. What should the wound on a tree or shrub be cover with to prevent disease or insects from entering?
Research has indicated that wound dressing or tree paint is not essential as previously thought
5. True or False To achieve the best pruning you must know the type of plant.
6. True or False You should prune during the spring flush of growth.
7. When should broad-leaf evergreens be pruned? Why?
Pruning of most broadleaf evergreen shrubs should be done just before new growth starts in the spring
8. What are the main points to remember when pruning? Read How to Prune section and summarize thoroughly. You should have at least 12 main points if not more. Number them on your paper.
 - 1) Never remove more than one-third of the branching system of any tree or about two-thirds of a shrub or vine in any year
 - 2) Pruning should follow a definite plan
 - 3) Begin by removing all dead, broken, diseased, or problem limbs by cutting them at the point of origin or back to a strong lateral branch or shoot
 - 4) cutting back lateral branches, the tree or shrub is trained to develop a desired shape, to fill in an open area caused by storm or wind damage, or to keep it in bounds to fit a given area
 - 5) Employ additional corrective prunings to eliminate weak or narrow crotches and remove the less desirable central leader where double leaders occur
 - 6) Pruning wounds should be kept as small as possible. Study the way the tree or shrub branches grow naturally
 - 7) Do not cut flush to the trunk, even in the absence of branch collars. Instead, remove limbs with bulges flush to the bulge, not flush with the trunk

- 8) Is important to know the typical growth habit of the species in question.
 - 9) Prune so the shoots after growth will grow away from the center of the plant. Be sure to study the position of buds on the limbs before you prune
 - 10) Bud position determines the angle of the limb or twig and its direction of growth.
 - 11) Remove the limbs growing toward the center of the plant or cut back to a larger bud pointing outward from the stem, toward the outside of the tree or shrub
 - 12) Start at the tip of the branches and trace downward toward the trunk or base. Growth can be diverted to smaller twigs, branches, or buds which will change the direction of growth
9. Should shrubs be pruned every year? Why?
Most shrubs do better if pruned a little every year rather than waiting until major pruning is necessary. Drastic pruning ruins the appearance and flowering or fruiting ability of some plants for several years.
10. How should shrubs be pruned?
It is best to cut off a portion up to one-third of the old stems at ground level and then remove a portion (one-third to one-half) of the remaining top growth.
11. How should hedges be pruned?
Hedges are often shaped with flat tops and vertical sides; however, this unnatural shape is seldom successful. As far as the plant is concerned, the best shape is a natural form, with a rounded or slightly pointed top, with the sides slightly tapering to form a wide base