

How to...

Prune Forsythia



Forsythia flowers on stems made the previous year. So, if you prune the plant too late in the year, you will cut off next spring's flowering stems and flowers. Forsythia needs a long growing season to make the stems it is going to flower on.

Straight after flowering, cut back all the stems that have flowered, to a healthy pair of buds. This may be between 30cm and 60cm in length from the top of the flowering area depending on how vigorous your plant is.

With an established shrub, it is also a good time to remove one in every three stems to a few cm above the ground, to encourage new shoots to grow from the base of the shrub. These stems will provide more flowers in the future.

Correct pruning encourages more flowers next year.