



# CHRISTENSEN'S PLANT CENTER

## Wholesale Supplier To Landscape Professionals

### ABCs or 123s...

This year, summer seemed to arrive BEFORE spring and when the cold temperatures came, the Clematis vines were especially sad to see after they had pushed some serious growth. This leads us to the three basic pruning groups in which established (at least 3 years) Clematis tend to be categorized.



There is Group A (or 1): These are the early bloomers that take a very light cut, since the flowers develop on the previous year's growth, a.k.a. "old wood".

Group B (or 2): These vines have mid-summer flowers with sporadic fall reblooms.

Moderate pruning is done here since the buds grow on both old and new wood. Many large-flowered hybrids are in this group.

Group C (or 3): The species and cultivars that land here tend to bloom late summer and fall. Flower buds are on new wood produced on current season's growth. These Clematis can be chopped to within a foot in late winter. A nice example would be Sweet Autumn Clematis (*C. terniflora*).



When delving further into pruning techniques for your Clematis, but not sure what variety you may

have, remember that these woody vines have been around for thousands of years without pruning. Go ahead and cut what you need to make it manageable and the worse that can happen is the loss of flowers for one season.



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