



## FYN Garden Q & A Series

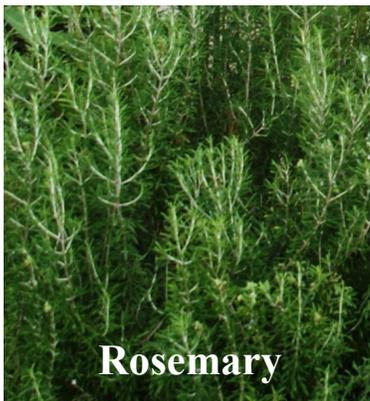
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Yards & Neighborhoods



### FYN Topic: Rosemary

**Question:** What's your secret to growing the herb, rosemary? You have a large plant in the ground in front of your house. What do you do to keep it alive? Frustrated in the Cape

**Answer:** Finding the right spot took some trial and error. I worked the rosemary into an existing landscape bed and did not plant it on an herb mound. Nor did I amend the soil or add organic matter or fertilizer. It is surrounded by other drought tolerant, Florida-Friendly plants. The soil is well drained. Also, I planted it towards the front of the landscape bed with taller plants behind it. It receives continuous sun every day all year. It likes growing undisturbed. I cut a few stems occasionally for cooking or for making wreaths. Rosemary prefers minimal watering by hand or by regular irrigation even in the dry season. Initially, I also kept competing plants surrounding it (shade, root competition, etc.) at a distance. I prune off older or dying growth spikes only. The key to success I believe is not over-watering. I also made sure rain water off the house drained away from where it was planted.



**Rosemary in a Florida  
Friendly Landscape**

#### Useful Links

<http://www.floridayards.org>

<http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

<http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/FYN/FYNHome.shtml>

<http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu>

Thomas Becker is an extension agent for the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) program at the Lee County Extension Service. Submit questions by calling the Horticulture Help Desk at 533-7504 between 9 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or by emailing [Extgardener@leegov.com](mailto:Extgardener@leegov.com). Visit his Web page at <http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/FYN/FYNHome.shtml>

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