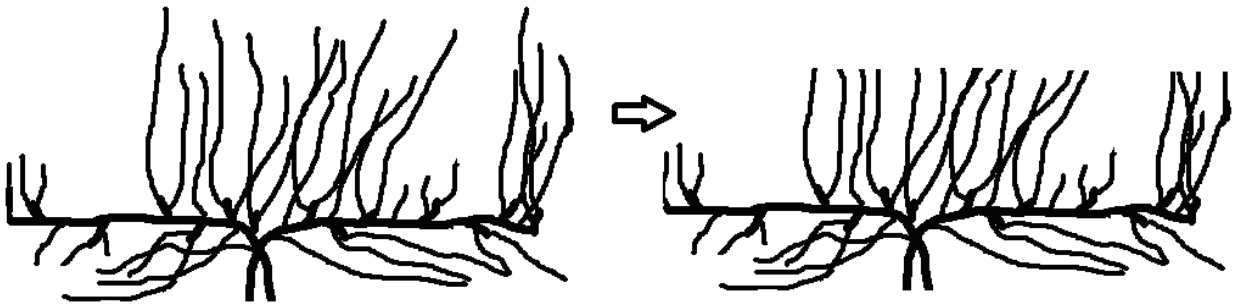
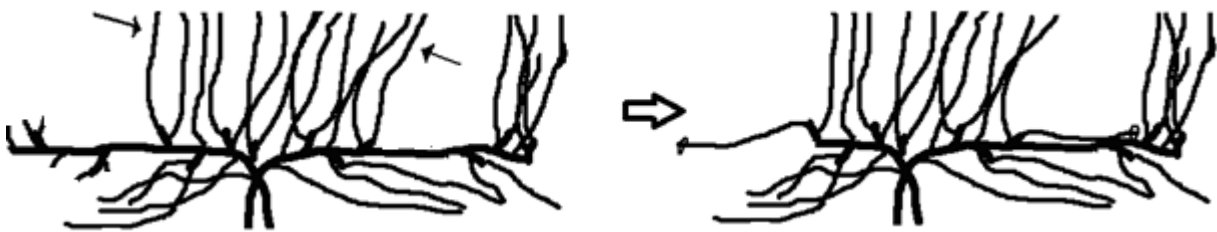


## Spur-pruning Established Vines in 4 Steps

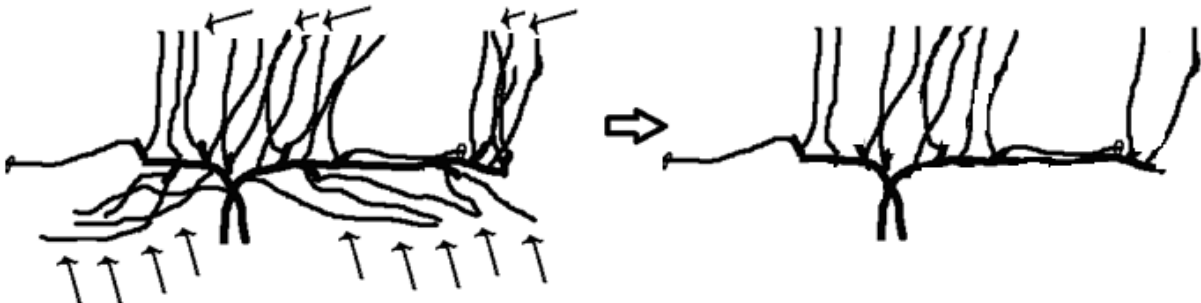
**Step 1: Rough Prune (can be done by unskilled workers any time after leaves drop).** Use clippers or gas-powered hedger to shorten all canes to 18-24 inches in length. Pull brush.



**Step 2: Fill and tie gaps, extend cordons, replace trunks/cordons (skilled workers on relatively warm days).** Look for "blind" gaps in the cordon or along the fruiting wire; i.e. spaces of 6+ inches bearing no good canes. Select a healthy cane to fill the gap or extend the cordon. Cut the "filler cane" back to 3-4 buds and tie down. Also, at this point, replace any bad trunks with a sucker cane of pencil diameter (not bigger), then remove unneeded suckers.



**Step 3 (for vines 4+ years old): Thin out crowded canes, leaving 4 (VSP) or 7 (ballerina) canes per foot of cordon (skilled workers).** When multiple canes emerge from a spur, retain the cane that is closest to the cordon.



**Step 4: Final prune (to mitigate risk of late spring frost damage, wait until basal buds begin to break to do this step....can be done very quickly by unskilled workers).** Cut all vertical canes back to 2 buds.

