

HOW TO PLANT BULBS:

Planting period: Spring flowering bulbs must be planted in the fall. Plant from September to December, even after the first frost if the ground can still be worked.

Planting depth: Use the diagram in this brochure to determine the proper planting depth for the bulbs you have chosen. As a rule of thumb: the bulb should be planted twice as deep as the height of the bulb itself.

Planting intervals: Read your bulb packets to learn the proper planting interval for that type. In general, large bulbs can be planted at intervals of about five inches; smaller bulbs do well planted four inches apart.

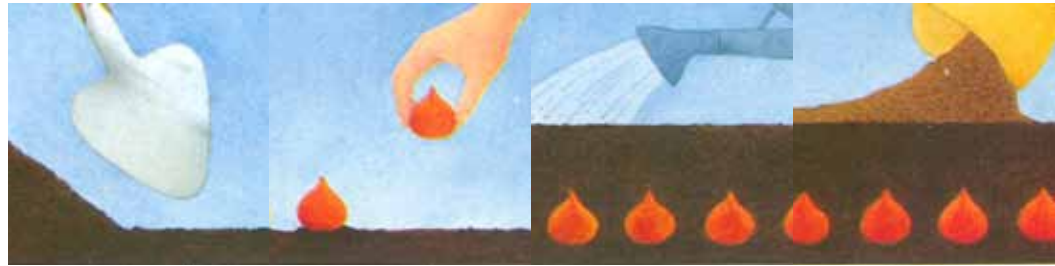
Watering: To start root growth and establish your flower bed over the winter, soak the soil immediately after planting.

With a fork or shovel, break up the soil well. To plant bulbs individually, use a trowel or bulb planting tool to dig holes twice the depth of the bulb size, spaced appropriately for its type. To plant large quantities of bulbs, dig a trench to the length you desire. Smooth the soil at the bottom and position your bulbs in pleasing arrangements, keeping in mind their proper planting depths and intervals. Cover the bulbs with soil and water well. In areas of heavy frost, cover the garden bed with a protective mulch of peat moss, leaves or hay to retain moisture.

Flower bulbs in pots and containers: Planting bulbs in pots and containers is easy to do. Choose a pot large enough or container with drainage holes at the bottom. Place a few potshards or some ceramic granules over the hole. Then put potting soil into the pot or container until it reaches the right planting depth for the bulbs. Arrange the bulbs on top of this soil and add more potting soil until it reaches just below the rim of the pot. Bulbs can actually be planted more closely together, and doing so makes a prettier effect. For a varied, more natural look, try taking advantage of contrasting flowering heights.

Tip 1: Bulbs can tolerate cold winter temperatures. But don't plant them too closely to the side of the pot because this is the very place where frost can penetrate. You can wrap the pots with an insulating material such as bubble wrap or place them temporarily in a spot that will not get any warmer than 13°C (55°F).

Tip 2: Terracotta pots can crack during the winter due to the expansion of the soil inside them during freezing weather. You can prevent this problem by planting the bulbs in a plastic pot that can be placed inside the terracotta pot. Make sure that any excess water can drain off. During a hard frost, you could fill up the space between the two pots with insulating material.



Add colour to your garden: Flower bulbs are available in every colour of the rainbow – from brilliant reds and yellows to deepest purple, pale apricot and white. Before buying and planting your bulbs, draw up a plan for your garden. This brochure gives you tips on how to choose bulbs that will provide an interesting array of flowering times, plant heights and colours. Consider where you place your bulbs; put taller tulips in the back of the garden, shorter crocuses in front.

To keep your garden colourful and lovely from February to July, it's equally important to know which bulbs bloom when. Plant them to bloom in phases throughout your garden. For a "naturalized" effect, plant additional bulbs in scattered plantings throughout your lawn and around trees and shrubs. Bulbs also do wonderfully in planters such as window boxes and tubs.

Months and months of blooms: Bulbs flower practically all year round – from February to November. The bulbs you plant in the fall will begin flowering in mid- to late-winter (snowdrops) and continue on through July (Dutch iris). Other bulb types carry the bulb-flowering season from summer through fall: these are called "summer-flowering bulbs" and you plant them in the spring. They include: begonias, lilies, dahlias and gladioli.

What will you plant? For maximum impact and beauty, group quantities of like colours and types. For instance, plant 15 red tulips together, next to a grouping of 9 blue hyacinths bounded by a bed of 35 to 50 yellow and white crocuses. Groupings like these create bands or waves of colour that please the eye. It also looks nicer to see parts of your garden in full bloom, rather than a single bloom here and there.

Bulbs and soil: Bulbs can be planted in any type of soil, as long as the ground is well-drained. To improve clay-bearing soils, add sand, peat or compost to the top layer. Bulbs require no extra fertilizer.

Enjoying your bulbs again next year: Many bulbs can be left in the soil after flowering. Just leave them alone and let the leaves wither back. Next year, these same bulbs can produce another beautiful display, but you will have to help them along by providing fertilizer (either organic or inorganic), applying it when the shoots emerge from the soil, and repeat immediately after flowering.

FLOWERING:

FEBRUARY / MARCH

- **Snowdrop**, Galanthus
- **Winter aconite**, Eranthis
- **Dwarf iris**, Iris reticulata and Iris danfordae
- **Windflower**, Anemone blanda
- **Crocus** (botanical and large flowered)
- **Striped squill**, Puschkinia
- **Daffodil** (botanical, trumpet and large-cupped)
- **Botanical tulip**
- Scilla siberica and Scilla tubergeniana
- **Spring snowflake**, Leucojum vernum



APRIL / MAY

- **Tulip** (single and double, Triumph and Darwin hybrid, Lily-flowered and Parrot)
- **Daffodil** (small-cupped, Poetaz and double)
- **Grape hyacinth**, Muscari
- **Crown imperial**, Fritillaria imperialis
- **Hyacinth**
- **Ornamental onion**, Allium aflatunense, Allium karataviense
- **Star of Bethlehem**, Ornithogalum
- **Summer snowflake**, Leucojum aestivum

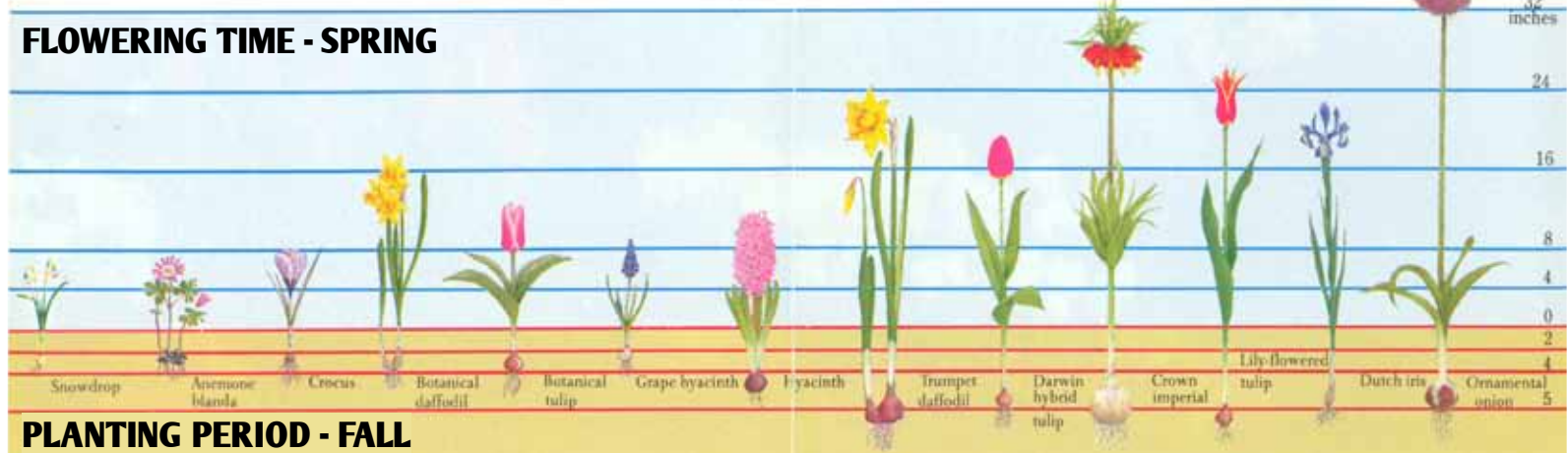


JUNE / JULY

- **Spanish bluebell**, Scilla campanulata
- **Quamash**, Camassia
- **Harlequin flower**, Sparaxis
- **Ornamental onion**, Allium moly, Allium oreophilum, Allium giganteum, Allium sphaerocephalon
- **California hyacinth**, Brodiaea
- **Dutch iris**
- **Foxtail lily**, Eremurus
- **African corn lily**, Ixia



FLOWERING TIME - SPRING



PLANTING PERIOD - FALL