

## Amaryllis & Paperwhite Bulbs

Enjoy beautiful blooms indoors with Amaryllis or Paperwhite bulbs. Unlike other bulbs purchased in the fall season, these do not require a cold period in order to bloom.

**Planting Paperwhites or Amaryllis?** No need for a cold period!

## Planting with soil:

• Choose a pot with drainage with a diameter slightly larger than the bulb or bulbs that you are planting.

Plant the bulbs in potting soil with the tips showing above the soil line.

• Compact the soil securely around the bulb to promote stability and to prevent the weight of the bloom from causing it to lean or topple.

- Water and set in a warm, sunny area.
- In 6-10 weeks, you'll have long lasting blooms.

## Planting without soil:

- No soil? No problem! Paperwhites and Amaryllis can be grown in water.
- Choose a glass bowl or vase that will support the bulb above water.
- If needed, fill the vessel with decorative stones or pebbles.
- Nestle the bulb(s), with pointed side up, into the vase or pebbles with roots just touching the water.
- Keep the bulb base out of contact with the moisture to prevent rot.
- Place in a bright, warm location.
- Refresh or top up the water as needed.
- Blooms will appear in 6 to 10 weeks.

## **After Bloom Care:**

Amaryllis bulbs can be kept for many seasons of bloom with some extra steps. Bonus: the older the bulb, the larger the blooms!

- After blooming, remove the faded flowers to prohibit seed development and remove the flower stem once it yellows. Cut back to just above the top of the bulb.
- Keep the potted bulb in a sunny location and keep the soil moist. Allow the top 2-3" of soil to dry out between waterings and fertilize with an all purpose houseplant fertilizer at half strength.
- In the spring, when the threat of frost has passed, gradually move your amaryllis outdoors into a location with approximately 6 hours of indirect or dappled sun.
- The bulb will continue to develop foliage and thrive outdoors until August when you stop watering and let the foliage yellow/die
- Before temperatures drop outdoors, remove the dead leaves and move the bulb indoors to a cool, dark space. Give the bulb a
  dormant period of 8-12 weeks, then place back into a sunny place and begin watering and waiting the next cycle of bloom.



