

Amaryllis Planting & Care

A Garden Guide

Choose large bulbs as they produce more flowers. If not planting immediately, store them in a cool place between 40-50 degrees.

PLANTING: Soak the base and roots in lukewarm water for a few hours. Plant in a container slightly larger than the bulb. Use a good potting soil and make sure the container has drainage holes.

Carefully plant the bulb being careful not to damage the roots. Leave about 1/3 of the bulb above the rim of the container.

After planting, thoroughly wet the soil with lukewarm water. Keep moist but not overly wet. Usually once a week is adequate. Avoid watering over the nose of the bulb. Keep the plant in a location where the temperature is around 65-70 degrees. A sunny windowsill in a cool location is ideal. It should begin blooming in about 6-8 weeks. After flowering begins, keep out of direct sunlight and in a cool area to help prolong bloom.

AFTER-BLOOM CARE: As the flowers fade, carefully cut them off and after all have faded, cut the bloom stalk off at the top of the bulb. Water and fertilize as you would other houseplants and place near a sunny window. After all danger of frost is past in the spring, plunge the container into the soil outdoors and continue growing until late summer.

REFLOWERING: As the leaves begin to yellow in late summer, gradually cut back on water until the leaves fade completely and the soil is dry. Bring back inside and store in a cool, dark location where the temperature stays between 40-55 degrees. Do not water during this time. After about two months of rest, water the soil and set the container in a sunny area and resume normal care.

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