

Amaryllis

Potting, Care, and Aftercare

Information adapted from [Netherland Bulb Company](#)

How do I plant Amaryllis bulbs?

Potting Instructions

Find a pot that is 2" wider than your bulb. Place 2 inches of potting mix in the bottom of your pot. The Amaryllis bulb likes to sit with 1/3 of the bulb above the soil line so place bulb accordingly in your pot and gently pack the soil between the roots. There should be about 1 inch of soil between the bulb and the edge of the pot as they like a tight fit.

Watering Habits

Water once when you first pot up your Amaryllis bulb, then sparingly until the sprout is well out of the bulb. Then water regularly, and you will soon be rewarded with the most spectacular blooms, 4 to 6 per stalk and 2 - 3 stalks depending on the size bulb planted.

Aftercare

What do you do with that amaryllis once the blooms are gone? Many people just toss the bulb when it has finished. However, if you would like to keep your bulb and try to make it bloom again, here are some simple steps.

1. When the flowers fade, cut off the old flower stalks about 1 inch above the bulb. Allow the foliage to continue growing.
2. If your bulb was in a small container, transplant it into a pot with good potting mix and a good drainage hole at the bottom. The pot should be about 2 inches wider than the bulb. The top 1/3 of the bulb should be above the potting mix. Water the potting mix well, and then water only when the top ½ inch of soil is dry. Apply a water-soluble fertilizer every four weeks
3. Put your bulb in the sunniest place you have and put the pot outside in the sun after the last frost. Amaryllis need 6-8 hours of direct sun. If you live in a tropical climate, your amaryllis can stay outside to grow and bloom on a natural cycle (not a forced holiday schedule). Continue your fertilizer program every four weeks.
4. 4. If you live in a colder climate, bring the bulb indoors in autumn when frost is in the air, and allow it to completely dry out. Cut off the dry leaves and let it "rest" for 6 weeks in a dark place.
5. 5. In the spring, repot your amaryllis with new potting mix, follow the watering instructions above until buds appear, and enjoy new blooms!