

Amaryllis A - Z

Getting it Growing

- Choose a pot that is only 1 or 2 inches wider than the bulb as they like the tight space.
- Be sure the pot is heavy enough to support the long stems and large flowers on top.
- Set a layer of rocks or other drainage material in the bottom to help with quick drainage.
- Choose good quality potting soil and put enough of it on top of your rocks to allow at least one half of the bulb to be exposed.
- Place the bulb in the pot and press it into place, add some soil to the sides and press down firmly, until the bulb is down about 1 inch from the rim of the pot. This way when you water it will not overflow.
- Give the bulb a thorough watering and then water sparingly until you see some stem growth.
- Place the Amaryllis in a cooler, dark room, where it can focus on developing roots.
- After about 2 weeks or when some growth appears, move the plant to a warmer location with some sunlight.
- Water the plant more frequently now, moist but not wet, is good.
- To prevent the stem from tilting towards the sunlight and toppling over, rotate the pot each day to help the stem grow straighter.
- Blooming occurs approximately 8 to 12 weeks after planting but will vary with different varieties and the conditions in your home.
- Once each flower fades you can remove them by pinching them off allowing the plant to concentrate its energy on the remaining blooms.
- To extend the length of the bloom time, once the flower has opened, move it to a slightly cooler location.

Care after Flowering with Re-blooming in Mind

- After all flowers have finished blooming, cut the flower stalk off about 1 to 2 inches above the bulb.
- Do not cut the foliage. In order to bloom again the bulb has to be able to replenish its energy. The large strap-like leaves absorb sunlight which is converted to energy (food) for the bulb.
- Set the potted Amaryllis outside in the sunshine in late May or June when all danger of frost is past, or leave it indoors in a sunny location.
- Fertilize once or twice a month with a balanced fertilizer (10-10-10) and water regularly.
- Stop watering mid to late August.
- In late September place the potted Amaryllis indoors in a cool, semi-dark location withholding water.
- Cut off all the foliage when the leaves have turned brown and let it rest for a few weeks.
- After the rest period, sometime between mid October and mid November, you should replace the soil and repot the bulb and give it a good watering.

BŌTANUS

CARE INSPIRE GROW

- Place your now dormant Amaryllis in a cool (10- 12 Celsius) location for 8 to 10 weeks.
- During this time it will focus attention on producing roots.
- When this period has ended move your Amaryllis to well lit room that is warmer.
- Water regularly but sparingly now, until new growth appears.
- Once new growth has appeared continue to keep the soil moist but not wet.

