

Bulbs

A CAROLINA™ CareSheet

Immediate Care and Handling

You can store your bulbs for several weeks in a dry, dark location where the temperature range is 10 to 13° C (50 to 55° F).

Culturing

Amaryllis

Plant each bulb in a 15-cm-diameter (6"-diameter) pot using the soil provided with the bulbs. Keep about 2.5 cm (1") of the neck of the bulb showing above the surface of the soil. It is best to premoisten the soil, but if that's not possible, water sparingly after potting. Amaryllis bulbs will produce flowers in 4 to 6 weeks.

To force the bulb to bloom, place the pot in a warm, shaded location; 21 to 24° C (70 to 75° F) is ideal. Once the flower bud is about 15 cm (6") high, place the amaryllis in a cooler, lighter location. Water daily from the top as well as from the saucer. You may have to support the flower stalk with a stake.

When the bud is at the point of opening, you can delay flowering for a few days by keeping the amaryllis at about 10° C (50° F).

Once the flowers have faded, cut the flower stalk about 15 cm (6") above the neck of the bulb. Fertilize weekly with diluted liquid fertilizer.

You can plant the bulbs outdoors in spring or grow them indoors in the pot. In either case, repot the bulbs in the fall in a mixture of peat and vermiculite or perlite. Keep the pots dry and frost-free at approximately 16 to 18° C (60 to 65° F) and stop watering completely. When the foliage has turned yellow, cut it off just above the bulb. Leave the pot dry and undisturbed for about 3 months. Then repeat culture as directed above.

Narcissus

Proper drainage is essential; bulbs will not grow in excessively wet soil. Plant narcissus bulbs so that the tips are just showing at the soil surface. Do not pack the soil too firmly, as this may hinder rooting. After planting, water moderately.

To force the bulbs to bloom, place containers in a dark, cool location. The temperature should be 5° C (40° F). Inspect containers frequently and keep the soil moist, but not soggy. After 6 to 10 weeks when buds are well extended, bring containers into a lighted room. It is advisable to shade the young plants with a piece of paper for a few days before exposing them to direct sunlight. Keep at 13 to 16° C (55 to 60° F).

The paperwhite narcissus is the only bulb you can place directly in the window after planting.

FAQ's

Why should I grow an amaryllis?

With its large flower and simple structure, amaryllis is an excellent specimen to study.

What is the difference between a daffodil and a narcissus?

They're about the same. Narcissus is a genus and a common name. Daffodil is becoming a more accepted common name, with narcissus restricted to the name for the smaller-flowered white forms.

I have heard that narcissus is poisonous.

All parts of the plant contain an alkaloid that if ingested can produce vomiting and diarrhea; with larger ingestions, the effects are more serious. Never chew on or put any part of the plant about the mouth. This is a good rule to observe with any plant unless you know it is edible.

Problems? We hope not, but if so contact us. We want you to have a good experience.

Orders and replacements: 1-800-334-5551 then select Customer Service

Technical Support and Questions: caresheets@carolina.com



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