

# Southtown Dahlia Club *answers your question:*

## When Will My Dahlia Open?



Match the appearance of your “bud” with a description below to find out!

*Terms you will need to know:*

Involucral Bracts: green leaf like growth surrounding the emerging buds

Baby Bud: the tiniest of buds fully enclosed by the “Involucral Bracts”

Pea Bud: a bud that is evident when the “Involucral Bracts” have opened

<b>Condition of Terminal Bud</b>	<b>Days to Maturity</b>
Baby bud visible within true leaves which are more or less upright.	22-26 days
Baby bud emerging from or just free of true leaves.	20-22 days
Baby bud enlarged but still entirely covered by bracts.	17-19 days
Small pea bud visible within bracts.	16-18 days
Big pea bud partly covered by bracts.	13-16 days
Bracts upright but still touching bud at sides.	11-16 days
Bracts beginning to open out flat, or are flat.	10-11 days
Tinge of color visible, or petals loosening at center.	7-9 days
Colored petals loosening at center.	6-7 days
1-5 petals lifting up straight.	6 days
Several petals upright or at 45 degrees, or some flat.	5 days
Petals upright or outer row of petals flat.	4 days
Nearly open or half open or some petals flat.	3 days
Nearly open.	2 days
Fully open.	1 day
Mature!	Pick the winner!

Southtown Dahlia Club gives credit to the many unknown growers who developed this chart and provided it for our members and for dahlia growers everywhere. The above figures are estimates based on average conditions for the top 4 sized dahlias. Timing will vary by cultivar and your conditions. **SDC invites you to compete in our 87th Annual Southtown Dahlia Club Show. Blooms must be “On the Table” Sat 8/31/24 10am. “Novice Division” Levels the field!**