

PILL AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

HINTS FOR GROWING BULBS FOR SPRING SHOW

These Hints are not written on tablets of stone and do not supercede your own experience or judgement

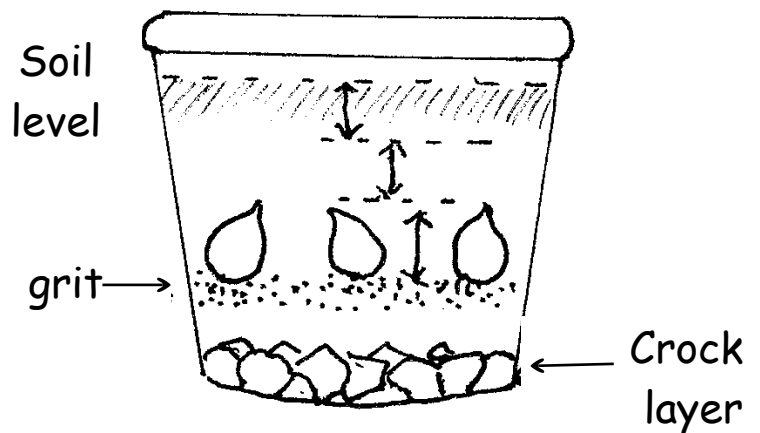
Daffodils & Tulips

1. These can be started between November and December.
2. Use pots appropriate to size of bulb and eventual height of flower. Put drainage crocks in larger pots. Use good quality multi-purpose or special bulb compost, or mix of both. Keep evenly moist without flooding. Good drainage essential.
3. A little grit/sharp sand under the bulbs when planting helps against bulb rotting.

4. Do not crowd bulbs,

Generally they need twice the amount of soil above them than the size of the bulb, and a bulb width apart.

5. Keep soil level 1/2" below the rim.



6. To develop good roots put filled pots in cool dark place for 6-8 weeks, preferably outside or garage (central heated houses not ideal). Cover (but not with plastic), and do not allow to dry out.
7. When shoots begin to appear, pots can be brought into full light. Protect from frost and continuous rain. Keep moist and monitor growth for timing of Show Day!. Turn pots regularly towards the light to maintain even growth.

Hyacinths

Usually grown in shallower pots in bulb fibre. Tips just below the surface, **not** buried in the pot soil, otherwise same information applies as above. Take approx. 16 weeks to flower including period in the dark.

More detailed information on Hyacinths on our website, with thanks and acknowledgement to Maggi Stowers.

Amaryllis

Plant indoors approx. 8 weeks before Show Day. This is how long they take to flower once planted. Plant with nearly half the bulb exposed above the soil level. Do not need to be kept cool or in the dark, and under rather than over watered, often best to water from the base. In mean temperatures of 60 degrees they will begin to flower in 8 weeks. So do not plant too early!