

Spring-Flowering Bulb Tips



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- Buy bulbs with firm necks, sides, and bases, with little root or stem growth.
- Plant bulbs immediately after purchase, ideally before November 1.
- Choose a location that gets plenty of sun before trees leaf out.
- For best appearance, plant an odd number of bulbs in clusters.
- Rule of thumb: Plant bulbs so that the bottom of the bulb is 2-1/2 times as deep as the bulb is tall.
- Plant bulbs stem-side up, root-side down; if in doubt, plant sideways.
- Add a generous amount of bone meal and/or bulb fertilizer to the hole.
- A layer of leaves or mulch during the winter improves bulb performance.
- Fertilizer may be applied to the soil surface in early spring, before blooming.
- After blooming ends, never cut the leaves or tie them up until they have begun to turn brown. The longer the leaves get sun, the more flowers next year.

Bulb type	Planting Depth	Bulb type	Planting Depth
Anemone	2 in	Galanthus	4 in
Belamcanda	1 in	Hyacinth	6 in
Camassia	4 in	Iris, Bearded	0 in
Chionodoxa	3 in	Iris, other	3-6 in
Colchicum	3 in	Ixia	2 in
Crocus	3 in	Muscari	3 in
Cyclamen	1 in	Narcissus	6 in
Daffodil	6 in	Oxalis	3 in
Eranthis	2 in	Ranunculus	1 in
Erythronium	3 in	Scilla	2-4 in
Frittilaria (short)	5 in	Sternbergia	5 in
Frittilaria (tall)	8 in	Tulip	6-8 in

Very Poisonous:	Colchicum, Convallaria (Lily of the Valley), Gloriosa
Harmful:	Amaranthus, Galanthus (Snowdrop), Iris, Narcissus (Daffodil), Scilla
Skin Irritant:	Hyacinth, Iris, Narcissus, Scilla, Tulip