ADDITIONAL TIPS

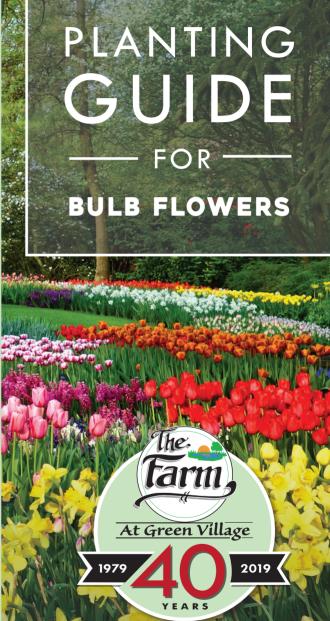
- For dramatic effect, try larger groupings of flowers. For smaller groupings, try container plantings using pots, baskets or window boxes.
- Terra cotta pots and ornamental planters can be vulnerable to cracking in cold temperatures. First plant bulbs in plastic pots and then place the plastic pot inside the earthen one, creating a natural insulation between the two.
- Try laying out your bulbs on top of the soil where you want to plant them. Afterwards, use twigs to mark where you've already planted.
- Use creative plant markers to mark sections of bulbs. Wood, galvanized steel or terra cotta markers can be an attractive addition to your garden.
- Try a natural look by tossing handfuls of bulbs and planting them where they fall.
- Plan your flower bed according to height, planting shorter bulbs in front and placing taller varieties toward the back.
- Try staggering flowering times as tulips will bloom at different times. A little planning will greatly increase the number of months you will enjoy bulb flowers.
- In the fall, rake a layer of fallen leaf mulch over newly-planted bulbs. They will enjoy the extra bedding and insulation!
- For additional resources, go to **digdropdone.com**

- CHOOSE THE RIGHT TOOLS! -





TO PICK UP BULB TONE. ORGANIC FERTILIZER



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GUIDE TO PLANTING BULBS

BULBS dig.drop.done⁻

IT'S EASY AS "DIG, DROP, DONE!"

BULBS 101

Bulbs are among the easiest flowers to grow and also can deliver the most stunning variety of colors. They can sprout with breathtaking results even for the novice gardener!

WHAT IS A BULB?

A flower bulb is an underground storehouse and flower factory. It is a self-contained package containing everything the plant will need to sprout and flower. If you split a tulip bulb open, you can see its baby flower bud, leaves, roots, stem and food supply. The only assistance bulbs need from you is to be planted in the ground at the appropriate season of the year, watered, and then left alone to grow.

VARIETY

Flower bulbs come in seemingly limitless varieties, making them perfectly suited to nearly every garden plan. Bulbs are an easy way to have splashes of color in your garden throughout spring and summer for years to come. Crocuses and daffodils are among the first signs of spring, and dahlias can bloom until frost. The three most important factors to keep in mind are color, plant height, and flowering period. Flowers including crocus, daffodils, dahlias, lilies, freesia, gladiolas, hyacinths, iris, narcissus, and many more varieties all come from bulbs.

WHEN TO PLANT

It all depends on local climate. The colder the climate, the earlier you should plant. In general, there are two seasons when you should plant your bulbs:

Fall

In the fall, plant after soil temperatures are below 50°F/10°C. These bulbs bloom the following spring and require the cold winter temperatures for development. Bulbs are pre-programmed to grow so even if you have to plant through snow, plant your bulbs!

Spring

In the spring, plant after the danger of frost has passed (tender bulbs love soil that is at least 60°F/15°C). These bulbs bloom in summer/fall.

HOW TO PLANT

Plant bulbs in a location that receives full or partial sun and with good drainage. Avoid planting at the base of hills or under drainpipes where water collects. Bulbs left in wet conditions are prone to rot.

Good soil preparation is the very first step. Make sure it is loose and porous to make the planting easier, and since good drainage is essential for all types of bulbs. Adding peat moss to the soil is a good trick to improve drainage. Also, include a bulb fertilizer such as **Bulb-tone® Organic Fertilizer** to the soil when planting.

The planting depth of bulbs depends on their size: a good rule of thumb is that the depth should be 3x the diameter of the bulb. However, planting depths vary by variety. For more specific planting depths, check the label on your bulb package.

Spacing of the bulbs can vary the ultimate effect you are trying to achieve. For best results, plant in clumps of large groups rather than in single rows.

After loosening the soil gently press the bulbs pointed ends up in the bed, cover them with the removed soil and tap it down slightly.

Last, remember to water the bulbs thoroughly.

It's as easy as **"dig, drop, done"**—and then delight in the next season!