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Frequently Asked Questions

WILL BULBS GROW ANYWHERE?

Yes, bulbs will grow in many different climates. Warmer climates are more challenging and may require pre-cooling each fall prior to planting. The year we ship your bulbs, we do any necessary pre-cooling here on our farm prior to shipment—your bulbs will be ready to plant when you receive them!

DO BULBS NEED TO BE WATERED?

Yes, if Mother Nature does not take care of it for you, then water during dry spells. Be sure not to oversoak the planting area. Water just enough so that it absorbs quickly. Water after planting, during growth, and even after topping if the soil is dry.

WHAT IS THE BEST TYPE OF SOIL AND FERTILIZER?

Soil needs to provide adequate drainage and oxygen for the bulbs. We recommend using a slow release fertilizer specifically designed for flower bulbs - usually a N - P - K formula.

DO BULBS NEED TO BE DUG IN THE SUMMER?

We recommend digging tulip bulbs each year after the foliage has died down naturally. They are more prone to disease and rot if left in the ground through the summer months. Other bulbs like daffodils can typically be dug on a 3-5 year schedule. If you experience diminished results in the spring, you should dig your bulbs that summer.



WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO STORE MY BULBS IF I DIG THEM?

After digging, make sure to dry bulbs thoroughly. Don't leave them out in the hot sun, as bulbs can get sunburned. After drying, it is ideal to store them in a well-ventilated, dry area, at a temperature of 65-70 degrees - however, any dry area should do. They should be stored in thin layers in flats or trays - or save and reuse our mesh bags to hang your bulbs in.

WHEN DO I REPLANT THEM?

The best time to plant bulbs is in the fall when the soil temperature starts to drop below about 50 degrees. In Western Washington, this is usually in October. Later planting is okay, but you may run into wet and undesirable conditions. Also, bulb roots need time to establish themselves before significant freezing occurs. In warmer climates, planting in November or December is appropriate (usually after the pre-cooling we provide).

WHY DON'T MY BULBS ALWAYS FLOWER AT THE SAME TIME OR AT THE SAME HEIGHT AS STATED IN THE CATALOG?

Many factors determine flowering time and height. One significant factor is the planting location - tulips from the same batch may flower two weeks later and be six to eight inches taller when planted in full shade as opposed to full sun. Color may also vary slightly. For "Hot" climates, plant in shade. Seasons and heights stated should be used as a guide only and can vary.

PLANTING IN CONTAINERS

- Containers need adequate drainage. Several holes in the bottom and a layer of pea gravel is helpful.
- Use soil from a dependable source. Even new soil from professional sources can contain elements toxic to bulbs.
- Water bulbs when planted and keep moist throughout the winter. Cold weather + dry soil = dehydrated bulbs.
- Cover with a layer of mulch (2") or straw in areas where freezing occurs. Straw can be removed later.
- Move containers into the garage during periods of extreme cold and continue to water while the container is inside.

TULIP BULB CARE: In the spring, at the end of the bloom season, be sure to top the flowers off of your tulips before the petals start to fall. Water your bulbs and make sure to let the foliage brown/die before digging your bulbs. We dig our bulbs in June here in the Pacific Northwest.

Daffodil and other bulbs do not need "topping", but you do need to allow the foliage to die completely. As the foliage browns, bulbs will continue to grow (bigger bulbs = bigger flowers!), so while not too attractive, this process is important if you plan to replant your bulbs in future years



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BULB PLANTING GUIDE

HOW TO PLANT YOUR BULBS THIS FALL

For even more information, visit us online at www.Tulips.com.
Expert Gardening Tips, FAQ'S and More!

STEP 1: PREPARE THE AREA



Work the planting area to loosen the soil. This can be done with a shovel or rototill and will help make planting your bulbs much easier. If the soil is clay based, add coarse sand. This will improve drainage.

STEP 2: LAY OUT THE BULBS



Lay out your bulbs in the design you want them planted. Bulbs should be placed as you would like them to bloom in the spring. If planting in small numbers, use clusters for best effect. The spacing distances listed below are recommendations only. Bulbs can be spaced closer together if so desired.

STEP 3: PLANTING THE BULBS



Use a simple garden trowel to plant your bulbs one at a time. Properly loosening the soil (As described in Step 1) will greatly increase the ease and efficiency of this process!

STEP 4: SMOOTH THE SOIL



Rake the soil to smooth the area. Fertilizer can be added to the soil and mixed in. Make certain to water well shortly after planting. Tip: Do not use cedar bark as mulch!

REACH US TOLL FREE ALL YEAR ROUND: 1-866-488-5477

The BIGGEST and BEST bulbs – DIRECT from the GROWER!

BULB PLANTING CHART

VARIETIES LISTED IN THE ORDER THEY TYPICALLY BLOOM (EARLY TO LATE)

Variety	Planting Depth/Space Between	Approximate Height (*)	Naturalizes Well? (**)
Galanthus Nivalis (Snowdrop)	5" deep / 3" apart	4 to 6 inches	Yes
Crocus	5" deep / 3" apart	4 to 6 inches	Yes
Chionodoxa Luciliae (Glory o/t Snow)	5" deep / 3" apart	Up to 6 inches	Yes
Hyacinth	8" deep / 6" apart	6 to 10 inches	No
Miniature Daffodils/Narcissus	6" deep / 4" apart	6 to 8 inches	Yes
Trumpet Daffodils	6" deep / 6" apart	18 to 20 inches	Yes
Darwin Hybrid Tulips	6" deep / 5" apart	22 inches or taller	Yes
Single Early Tulips	6" deep / 5" apart	16 to 20 inches	No
Double Early Tulips	6" deep / 5" apart	16 inches or taller	No
Muscari	5" deep / 3" apart	6 to 9 inches	Yes
Other Daffodils/Narcissus	6" deep / 6" apart	12 to 20 inches	Yes, with some exceptions
Fosteriana Tulips	6" deep / 5" apart	16 inches or taller	No
Triumph Tulips	6" deep / 5" apart	18 inches or taller	No, with some exceptions
Botanical/Species Tulips	4" deep / 4" apart	4 to 8 inches (16" for Praestans)	Yes
Greigii Tulips	6" deep / 5" apart	10 to 18 inches	Yes
Fringed Tulips	6" deep / 5" apart	22 inches or taller	No
Lily Flowering Tulips	6" deep / 5" apart	18 inches or taller	No
Double Late Tulips	6" deep / 5" apart	16 inches or taller	No
Single Late Tulips	6" deep / 5" apart	22 inches or taller	No, with some exceptions
Parrot Tulips	6" deep / 5" apart	16 to 20 inches	No
Camassia Leichtlinii	6" deep / 8" apart	24 to 40 inches	Yes
Scilla	4" deep / 4" apart	6 to 9 inches	Yes
Allium Roseum Grandiflorum	4" deep / 3" apart	10 inches	Yes
Dutch Iris	5" deep / 4" apart	24 inches	Yes

(*) For more specific information regarding flowering height, please see each particular bulb variety on our website: www.tulips.com.

(**) Naturalizing refers to having bulbs come back year after year with very little care. While all bulbs differ in their ability to naturalize, they will do much better in moist/temperate climates than in hot/dry environments. Daffodils, crocus, muscari and scillas are some of the better naturalizing bulbs. Darwin Hybrids are the most suitable tulips.

**YOUR BULBS SHOULD BE PLANTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UPON RECEIPT!
STORE IN COOL, DRY LOCATION UNTIL PLANTED.**