

POTTING BULBS IN CONTAINERS

Materials Needed:

1. Clean pots with good drainage; 6" deep for small bulbs, taller pots for larger bulbs or layering
2. Good soil mix
3. Healthy bulbs
4. Fertilizer, such as Bulb Tone

Directions for planting bulbs in pots:

1. Lay a coffee filter or paper towel in the bottom of the pot. Add 1-2" of soil. Sprinkle with fertilizer. Add more soil so that bulbs will not touch the fertilizer.
2. Place bulbs, pointed ends up, at least 1" from the edge of the pot. Bulbs may be close, but should not touch one another.
3. If layering, place the largest bulbs first and cover with soil. Then add the next size bulb and cover. A third layer of smaller bulbs may be added, if you can cover them with 2" of soil.
4. Water the soil thoroughly. Pots may stay outside until the first frost.
5. Bulbs don't get enough protection in containers and can freeze. Pots should be stored in an unheated garage or cold frame. Pots can also be buried in a pile of mulch.
6. If stored in the garage, pots will need to be lightly watered every 2 or 3 weeks. Do not overwater.
7. When you see growth and the temperature is above 30 degrees, the pots can be taken out to get some sun. Bring them back inside when the temperature drops.
8. Enjoy. Be sure to deadhead the blooms after flowering. Fertilize again after flowering. Allow the foliage to die back naturally. You can pop in some annuals to camouflage the dying foliage.