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## Amaryllis Bulb Care

### Potting Instructions

Place 2 inches of potting soil in the bottom of your pot. The Amaryllis bulb likes to sit with 1/3 of the bulb above the soil line so place bulb accordingly in your pot and gently pack the soil between the roots. There should be about 1 inch of soil between the bulb and the edge of the pot as they like a tight fit.

### Watering Habits

Water once when you first pot up your Amaryllis bulb, then sparingly until the sprout is well out of the bulb. Then water regularly and you will soon be rewarded with the most spectacular blooms, 4 to 6 per stalk and 2 - 3 stalks depending on the size bulb planted.

### What do I have to do to get my amaryllis bulb to bloom again next winter ?

After your amaryllis blooms, remove the flower stalk (or stalks)--NOT the leaves--and continue watering it as before. Begin fertilizing monthly with a balanced, water-soluble houseplant fertilizer (mixed as directed). When all danger of frost has passed in spring, move the pot outdoors to a shady location and increase the exposure to sunshine day by day over the course of a week or so, until the plant gets full sun (six hours or more of direct sunlight per day). You can either leave the bulb in its pot or transplant it into the garden. (If you keep the bulb in its pot, you may need to move it into a larger pot if you find that the potting mix dries out rapidly.) Continue to water and fertilize through summer. After the first frost or in mid-October (whichever comes first), dig the bulb from the garden or knock it out of its pot, and cut the leaves off just above the top of the bulb. Then place the bulb in a cool, dry place such as a basement for 8-10 weeks. About two months before flowering is desired, repot the bulb and begin watering--sparingly until growth is clearly under way.