

# BULB FORCING PROJECTS

## FORCING TULIPS OR HYACINTHS IN SOIL

1. Choose any pot with drainage.
2. Cover drainage hole with with a shard of terracotta or a large pebble. This prevents loss of your special forcing potting mix.
3. Add a shallow layer of gravel. This adds stability (most important in lightweight pots) and added drainage.
4. Add your special forcing potting mix.
  - a. 3 parts potting soil (we use Berger brand)
  - b. 1 part sand
  - c. Mix well in a garbage bag.
    - \* Some potting soil may come very dry. In this case work a few cups of water into the soil until it is still fluffy, but moist.
5. Add bone meal as needed. 1TBS per 6" pot is a good rule of thumb.
6. Now add your bulbs.
  - a. Be sure to put the pointy side up (this is the top.)
  - b. If you can locate the flat side of the bulb orient it towards the middle of the pot.
  - c. Make sure that the the tips of the tulips are just peeking above the soil line and that the hyacinths are exposed about 1/2" above the soil.
7. Water well.
8. Store at about 45 degrees for the required time (see chart below.)
9. After chilling time is complete, remove the pot, water it, and place it in a cool and bright location. You should have blooms in about 3 weeks (if growth is slow move the pot into a warmer brighter location.)
10. Remember to label your plantings with the name, variety, color, height, planting date, and ready date.

BULB	CHILL TIME	TIME TO BLOOM	START DATE	WATER OR SOIL
Paperwhite	None	2 1/2-4wks	Thanksgiving for Christmas Day	Either
Hyacinth	12wks	2-3wks		Either
Crocus	11wks	2-3wks		Either
Tulip	16wks	2-4wks		Soil
Narcissus	12-15wks	2-3wks		Soil
Amaryllis	None	6-8wks		Peat Moss

If you have any question please call, write or drop by:

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