

# FORCING PAPERWHITES IN WATER

1. If you do not wish to force these bulbs immediately place them in a paper bag and store in a cool, dry, frost-free location.
2. When you are ready to force them use a thin layer of horticultural charcoal to cover the bottom of your container to help keep the water fresh.
3. Then pour stones, marbles, or gravel in (the container must be at least 3" deep). The vase, bowl, or other container must be without drainage holes to work.
3. With the tips up nestle the bulbs in, leaving the majority of the bulb uncovered.
4. Add water until it touches the base of the bulbs. To avoid bulb rot, do not allow the water to rise above this level.
5. Set the container in a dim, cool room (50-55' F is best) for one to two weeks to initiate root development. Check water level daily and refill as needed. Never allow bulbs to dry out.
6. When bulbs are well rooted and foliage appears, move the container to a bright windowsill or room where temperatures are 60-68' F. Note: Avoid low light and warm temperatures; low light promotes long, weak stems, and warm temperatures encourage short lived blooms.
8. As the stems grow, occasionally rotate the container to keep them from leaning toward the light.
9. Forcing bulbs depletes their reserves. Thus, if forced again or planted in the garden, they will produce smaller and fewer flowers.
10. To prepare to force the bulbs for next season it is necessary to fertilize once after flowering, continue to water until foliage turns yellow and withers. Remove the bulbs from their container, and cut off the foliage. Store them in a cool, dry, frost-free location, then force again anytime from late fall through early spring.

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

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