



Bucks Country Gardens

Basic Guide To Growing Amaryllis

PLANT

In a pot that is slightly larger than the bulb's diameter (an inch between the bulb and the pot's side is a good guideline.) Leave the neck of the bulb exposed. (see diagram)

WATER

At the time of planting, water thoroughly and then wait until soil dries thoroughly before watering again. The bulb needs time to produce new roots before it can accept frequent watering. Generally, the first flower stalk emerges a short time after the first or second watering and reaches its mature height in a short period of time. Once this growth has begun, water thoroughly whenever the soil surface looks and feels dry.

SUNLIGHT

Adequate light will be needed for good leaf growth. Leaves begin sprouting during flowering or shortly after. When these leaves are seen provide a sunny location (at least 4 hours daily.) Watering will be more frequent as more and more leaves develop. Fertilize frequently during this leafy time with a weak ratio of 20-20-20 fertilizer. These leaves will be active from the time they appear through the spring and summer. By September, however, they will be ready for a rest.

REST

To give the bulb a rest from growing, withhold water from September through November or December. The leaves will discolor and die; remove these leaves individually as they die.

BEGIN WATERING

After the plant has rested for 3 to 4 months. It is beneficial to remove the top inch of old soil from the pot and replace it with new soil before starting the bulb into growth again.