

# Amaryllis Care



281 St. Andrews Drive, Mankato MN 56001

[drummersgardencenter.com/amaryllis-tips](http://drummersgardencenter.com/amaryllis-tips)

507-388-4877



Plant amaryllis with good potting mix in a well-drained pot.



The flower bud and/or leaves will emerge.



Flowering



Foliage

Plant your bulb approx. 6 week in advance of when you want it to bloom.

Select firm bulbs - the biggest you can find. Use any pot with drainage, that is about 1-inch wider than the bulb and twice as tall. Or, try a larger container with several amaryllis for a more stunning display.

Fill the pot 1/3 to 1/2 full of good quality potting soil, set the bulb on top of that and then fill the pot with soil so the 1/3 to 1/2 of the bulb is exposed. The soil can be topped with moss, evergreens, or any decorative item. Water well to settle the soil then water sparingly until active growth is visible. Place the pot in a warm, sunny spot and the flower stalk will begin to emerge. The flowers will form at the top of this stalk. Fertilize at half the recommended strength each time you water. Use a fertilizer that has high phosphorous content to promote blooming (remember, to keep soil on the dry side). You can move the plant out of direct sunlight once it starts to flower.

When they are done blooming, cut off the spent flowers but leave the green stalk on until it yellows and withers. At the same time the leaves will begin to emerge from the bulb. Place the plant in the sunniest location possible. The leaves are essential to storing energy in the bulb for next year's bloom and for year after year of blooms. Sometimes the foliage will get quite long but that's okay.

You can move the plant outdoors in dappled shade or sunny location for the summer. Keep it in the pot if you'd like (only needs to be repotted every 3-5 yrs!). You can also plant in a well draining area of the garden. Continue to fertilize with a general fertilizer. They must be brought indoors before the frost, they will not survive the cold.

If the plant did not get enough energy to grow a flower the following year it will produce foliage. Just proceed with the growing instructions above and try again.

## Dormancy Instructions and Control Blooming:

These are the steps that need to be taken if you want to control when your Amaryllis blooms. You can keep letting it grow without going into dormancy but you might not get blooms consistently. These steps are important if you want blooms for the Holidays.

- After bringing the potted amaryllis indoors, store the potted plant in a cool, dry, dark location such as a basement or closet.
- The temperature should be around 50-60 degrees.
- Let the leaves become brown and dry before cutting them off.
- Leave the potted bulb in the dark for 8 to 12 weeks. Do not water during this time.
- Inspect the bulb periodically for mold or mildew. If found, treat with a fungicide or consider throwing away the bulb.
- If new growth appears during this time, remove the potted bulb from the dark location and place in a sunny window. Trim off any dead leaves. Water and fertilize with general fertilizer
- Flowers usually develop in about 4 to 6 weeks from dormant bulbs.
- Blooming can be timed around specific holidays and events.