## Forcing Amaryllis Bulbs



For big, bright blooms to brighten your home in winter, it's hard to find a flower more stunning than amaryllis. Amaryllis are one of the easiest bulbs to grow and one of the showiest. It takes approximately 6-8 weeks from planting to bloom.

## **PLANTING/CARE INSTRUCTIONS**

- Choose a container with good drainage that will give the bulb 1 inch of soil on all sides.
- Fill the pot with potting soil so that two-thirds of the bulb will be below the rim of the pot.
- Fill in around the bulb with potting mix and gently firm soil down.
- Water thoroughly until it drains out of the bottom of the pot.
- Place the pot in a warm place (65-70°F) out of direct sunlight.
- Don't water the bulb again until it starts to grow, then water regularly when the soil becomes dry to the touch.
- Once the bulb starts growing, move the pot to a sunny window. .
- When the flower buds begin to show color, move the pot to a cooler spot out of direct sunlight. This will help your flowers bloom longer.

## **REBLOOMING INSTRUCTIONS**

Did you know that with a little extra effort, amaryllis can be encouraged to blossom again the following year? It takes some planning and care, but can be a very rewarding thing to try.

- After blooming, leave the foliage and cut the stem down to 3-4" above the bulb.
- Keep the pot in a sunny window and treat as you would other indoor plants.
- After danger of frost has passed, move the plant outside for the summer. You can either plant the bulb in the ground or leave it in the pot.
- In fall (10-16 weeks before you want the bulb to bloom) place in a dark, dry, cool (55°F) location. You can either leave it in the pot, or store the bulb with the soil removed.
- Cut the foliage back at this time. Do not water. Leave the bulb in place for 4-8 weeks.
- At the end of the 4-8 weeks begin the "Planting Instructions" above once again.