



Autumn Bulb Planting Guide

Soil

With any bulbs that you plant, it is best if you can dig the area where you wish to plant to at least a spade's depth. This allows room for the roots to develop, giving better flowering.

Fertiliser

While digging your soil over, add some blood and bone compost or bulb food and mix this well into the soil. As a rough guide, 2 - 4 handfuls of fertilizer can be added to each square metre of soil.

Bulb	Plant	Spacing	Flowering	Height
Daffodils	Feb / April	10cm	July - Sept	40cm
Tulips	Early May	10 - 15cm	Sept - Oct	30cm
Hyacinths	March - May	10 - 15cm	Sept	15cm
Ranunculi	March - May	10 - 15cm	Aug - Oct	60cm
Anemones	Feb - May	10cm	May - Sept	20cm
Fressias	March / April	4 - 6cm	Sept - Oct	15 - 30cm

Daffodils

One of the most popular spring flowering bulbs, daffodils are often the first show of colour in late winter. Plant these hardy bulbs anytime from February until April. The base of the bulb should be 12 - 15cm below the soil surface. Space them 10cm apart to give them plenty of room to multiply. Daffodils are best left in the ground where they will bloom naturally year after year. Daffodils can be planted in full sun to partial shade, being equally happy in both areas. To help flowers continue year after year, top dress with fertiliser each May and again immediately after flowering with 1 - 2 handfuls of bulb food to the square metre. If lifting bulbs, allow the leaves to die right back, lift and dry in a cool position. Only break apart small bulbs that readily come off the mother bulb.

Tulips

Tulips like a cool, well drained position. Planted next to shrubs or trees, where they get afternoon shade is ideal for them. Plant out in May with the base of the bulb approx. 10 - 15cm below the surface of the soil, and the same distance apart. Water regularly and spray with a fungicide spray 2 - 3 times during their growth for best results. Tulips flower during Sept - Oct. When the flowers finish, wait for the leaves to turn yellow before digging the bulb. Store the bulbs in an airy position - an old stocking is ideal, under the house or in a cool garage and replant again in May. The dry husk can be peeled away before replanting.

Hyacinths

Another bulb with fragrance, beauty and ease of flowering. Plant these large bulbs anytime from March to May, 10 -15cm deep and apart. You will see the large spikes appear through the soil during late winter and the flowers bloom early spring. Plant in a sunny position in well drained soil. Very hardy, Hyacinths do well in cool as well as warm climates. Bulbs can be dug when leaves turn yellow, stored in a warm position and replanted.

Ranunculi

For a massed show of bright colour during Aug - Oct, Ranunculi are unequalled. Plant with claw facing downwards with approx 2 - 3 cm of soil covering the top of the corm, and 10 - 15cm apart. Ranunculi prefer a sunny position and can be planted from March to May. Being gross feeders, they require little extra food added to the soil. Liquid manure added to the soil during growth would be most beneficial. Corms can be left in the ground if required. If lifting, do so when stalks yellow, dry and then cut off the old stalks above the corms. Keep in a dry position until replanting again. NOTE: the 'Picasso' strain of Ranunculi should not be planted closer than 20cm due to the fullness of the growth of this plant. They are also very heavy feeders and require approx twice the amount of fertilizer as most plants.

Anemones

As with Ranunculi, these prefer a well drained soil. Plant with the point downwards, but this is sometimes difficult to determine. If in doubt, just place them any way 2cm under the soil and they will sort themselves out. Plant 10 - 15cm apart. Water moderately at first and then freely when in full growth. Liquid fertilizer added during growth would be most beneficial. Corms can be dug and stored similar to Ranunculi. If leaving in the garden, give a top dressing of blood and bone or any bulb food during autumn and early spring. Anemones flower during late winter and early spring.

Freesias

For fragrance beauty and ease of flowering, few rival the Freesias. They are extremely hardy and will do well in almost any area. They prefer a sunny position and should be planted 3cm deep and 4 - 6cm apart. Freesias are best left in the ground where they will flower readily each spring and multiply rapidly to form a cluster of beauty for years to come.