Potted Plants

**Step 1:** Loosen soil in the planting bed, then dig a hole as deep and a little wider than the pot. Most perennials should be planted at the same depth as they are in their containers.

**Step 2:** Carefully remove the plant from its pot by holding one hand over the soil and tapping the bottom of the pot. Squeezing the pot can help loosen the root ball from the pot. If the roots have completely filled the pot or are beginning to circle the bottom of the pot, gently loosen or unwind them to encourage them to venture into the surrounding soil.

**Step 3:** Place the root ball into the planting hole, double checking to be sure that the top of the root ball is even with the soil surface. Backfill the hole with soil, firming it as you go to eliminate air pockets. Water the soil thoroughly.

Bareroot Plants

**Step 1:** Remove and discard the packing material that surrounds the roots. Place the roots in a container of tepid water while you’re preparing the planting hole or for up to an hour before planting.

**Step 2:** Examine the roots to determine the approximate width and depth of the planting hole you’ll need. Unless otherwise noted, you’ll want to set the plant so the crown (the point where the stems and leaves meet the roots) sits about an inch below the soil surface. If you are unsure which end is up, look closely for buds or remnants of stems that indicate the top of the plant. If you’re still unsure, set the roots on their side. The plant will know which way to grow.

**Step 3:** Dig a hole in the prepared soil to the necessary width and depth. Set the bare-root plant in the hole, spreading out the roots. Holding the plant with one hand; use the other to add soil around and in-between the roots, firming it gently to eliminate air pockets. Adjust the planting depth if necessary as you backfill. Water the soil thoroughly.
Getting Started
Open the box right away and check the contents.

When Your Plants and Bulbs Arrive
Fall bulbs, including popular varieties such as Tulips and Daffodils, are planted in the fall and bloom in the spring. They must be planted in order to sit dormant in the ground over the winter and most must be exposed to cold temperatures to bloom. You will need to plant your bulbs this fall as new bulbs will not keep for future years.

Fall Bulbs in Cold Climates (Zones 1 - 7)
Bulbs should be planted in the fall before the first hard frost. It is best to wait until the average night time temperature is 40 - 50 degrees F.

Fall Bulbs in Warm Climates (Zones 8 - 11)
Tulips, Crocus, Hyacinths, Grape Hyacinths (Muscari), Scilla and Snow-drops require pre-chilling in order to bloom. Other types can be planted directly in the ground, ideally at the coolest time of year. To pre-chill, leave bulbs in their bags and place in a refrigerator for 6-10 weeks. Separate bulbs from fruit in the refrigerator as fruit gives off a gas that can harm the bulbs. Remove and plant at the coolest time of the year.

Potted and Bareroot Plants
Plant as soon as possible. In the meantime, remove the plants from the package. Store the bareroots in a cool, dark location and protect from freezing. The potted plants should be kept in a cool room where they get some sun through a window, protect them from freezing and keep the soil moist but not soggy.

Where to Plant
For full-sun plants, select a spot that gets at least 6 hours of sun per day. Part-sun plants grow best with a few hours of direct sun or dappled sun all day. Shade plants need to be shaded during the day but can tolerate some sunshine in the early morning or evening.

We guarantee all of our products and try to give you the best information possible for you to have success. If you’re unsure of when to plant or have further questions, don’t hesitate to call our team at 877-309-7333.

Step-by-Step Planting Instructions

Bulbs

Step 1: Loosen soil in the planting bed to a depth of at least 8” and remove any weeds, rocks or other debris. You can mix in compost, other organic matter or slow-release fertilizer at this time.

Step 2: Follow the recommendations on the label for planting depth. Set the bulb in the hole with the pointy side up and/or the roots down. If you are unsure, plant the bulb on its side.

Step 3: When filling the hole, moderately compress the soil but do not pack. If you choose, you may add compost or outdoor planting soil for optimal results. If soil is dry, water thoroughly, but you do not need to water continuously until spring.

Note: Hyacinth bulbs contain a substance that can cause an itchy skin reaction in some people. If you have sensitive skin, wear gloves when handling these bulbs.

Planting Depths for Bulbs

Aftercare in the Spring
When the flowers have completed blooming, cut the flower head off but do not cut the leaves. The bulb will use the leaves to gather nutrients from the sun and the leaves should be left on until they turn yellow or brown. Once this happens, cut the leaves to ground level. In cold climates, many bulbs will return for multiple years. In warm climates, many bulbs can be induced to return by repeating the pre-chilling cycle, described earlier in this guide.