

BULB CALENDAR

Planting for Year-round Color



BULBS 101

From the first snowdrops and crocus to dramatic summer lilies to those stunning winter amaryllis, bulbs are a year-round favorite. But when do you buy and plant your bulbs, and when will they bloom? The chart on the back can guide you on when to find your favorites at the nursery and when to expect them to bloom.

TIMING

Even though each variety has its own most common bloom time, there are many factors that affect when bulbs will flower:

Seasonal issues: Every year is different. For instance, a very cold spring will probably postpone the bloom times of many early-season flowers. Alternately, a very warm spring can encourage bulbs to bloom early.

Culture: Most bulbs need a soil that drains well to prevent rot over a rainy winter. Consider adding pumice and compost to heavy clay soil.

Check bulb packages for the right amount of sun and water each variety needs. If a sun-loving bulb is put in too much shade, it will not flower as expected. And may not return the following spring at all.

Bulb food at planting and during the growing season will promote a stronger flower display.

Varietal Differences: Some species or varieties of the same type of bulb will have different qualities and bloom times. Check the tags and packages, or ask if you are unsure about when a particular plant is supposed to bloom.

Questions? We're always happy to help. Stop by our Information Desk, phone, or email us at info@portlandnursery.com

FUN FACTS

Not all "bulbs" are bulbs.

Bulbs—daffodils, tulips, and lilies. They have overlapping "scales", as an onion does.

Corms—gladiolas and crocus. New corms form each season for next year's flowers.

Rhizomes—iris and cannas. These increase by growing sideways over the soil.

Tuberous Roots—dahlias and daylilies. Their fleshy roots hold nutrients for future flowers.

Tubers—anemones and tuberous begonias. Like the potato, they have "eyes".

Confusing? Don't worry about the names. All of these will be found in the Bulb Section of the Nursery.



PORTLAND
NURSERY
www.portlandnursery.com

BULB NAME		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
VERY EARLY	Snowdrops (<i>Galanthus</i> spp.) & Winter Aconite (<i>Eranthis cilicica</i>)												
	Dwarf Iris (<i>I. reticulata</i> , <i>I. danfordiae</i>)												
EARLY	Snow Crocus												
	Early Daffodils (<i>Narcissus</i> spp.)												
EARLY	Early Snow Glories (<i>Chionodoxa</i> l.)												
	Kaufmaniana Tulips												
EARLY	Giant Crocus (<i>Crocus vernus</i>)												
	Early Tulips (<i>Gregii</i> , <i>Fosteriana</i> , species)												
EARLY	Trumpet Daffodils (<i>Narcissus</i> species)												
	Hyacinths (<i>Hyacinthus orientalis</i>)												
EARLY	Grecian Windflower (<i>Anemone blanda</i>)												
	Giant Daffodils (<i>Narcissus</i> species)												
MID	Mid-season Tulips (<i>Triumph</i> , <i>Darwin</i>)												
	Grape Hyacinths (<i>Muscari armeniacum</i>)												
LATE	Summer Snowflakes (<i>Leucojum</i>)												
	Golden Bells Daffodil (<i>Narcissus</i> spp.)												
LATE	Late Season Tulips (parrot, fringed, etc) & Star of Bethlehem (<i>Ornithogalum</i>)												
	English Bluebells (<i>Hyacinthoides</i>)												
EARLY	Firecracker Flower (<i>Dichelostemma</i>)												
	Dutch Iris (<i>Iris hollandica</i>)												
EARLY	Asiatic Lilies												
	Alliums & Butterfly Tulips (<i>Calochortus</i>)												
SUMMER	Mountain Bells * & <i>Anemone coronaria</i> *												
	Lavender Mountain Lilies *												
SUMMER	<i>Triteleia</i> *												
	English Iris *												
SUMMER	Hardy Gladiolus												
	Bearded Iris												
SUMMER	Gladiolus												
	Oriental Lilies (<i>Lilium</i>)												
SUMMER	Tuberous Begonias (start indoors in Feb)												
	<i>Canna</i> *												
SUMMER	<i>Crocasmia</i>												
	<i>Dahlia</i> *												
FALL	Peacock or Shell Flower (<i>Tigridia</i>) *												
	Spider Lily (<i>Nerine</i>) *												
FALL	Autumn Crocus (<i>Colchicum autumnale</i>)												
	Lily of the Field (<i>Sternbergia lutea</i>) & Saffron Crocus (<i>Crocus sativa</i>)												
WINTER	<i>Amaryllis</i> & Paperwhites (indoors)												

KEY: Pink area = Flower bloom time Brown area = Bulb planting time * = Planting times vary