

## Amaryllis Care Hippeastrum



Amaryllis is truly the most beautiful and exotic looking flower to brighten your home in winter. It is native to South America, the Andes Mountains in Chili and Peru. When purchasing a new Amaryllis bulb, it is one of the easiest bulbs to grow. However, last years bulbs take a little more care. Go to: www.pattysplants.com on "How to get your Amaryllis to Re-bloom." If you want an amaryllis to bloom for Christmas you'll need to purchase a new one in October or early November. Or you can find them already started at you local garden shop. It doesn't matter what month you buy it in, October or April, you'll still have to wait 6-10 weeks to see it bloom after you plant it.

- You should prepare the bulb for planting by soaking it's base and roots in warm water for a couple of hours. This will hydrate the dry root system. If you can't plant it right away, keep it in a cool area and hydrate it at the time of planting.
- Use good potting soil and add worm castings to it to give it a natural nutritious boost once the roots start growing. Always moisten the soil first. It is much easier to work with and doesn't sink down when watering it.
- Place only the bottom 3/4 of the bulb under the soil. The neck and top of the bulb should stick out. Never cover the bulb completely with soil as you can rot the bulb easily that way. Make sure the soil is pressed firmly around the bulb. This will keep it from tipping. They can get top heavy as they grow.
- Water sparingly until the plant starts to grow. Then let it dry slightly. They do not like to stay constantly wet.
- Place in a warm sunny window and watch it grow.

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