

Bulbs not growing?

Growing bulbs indoors is usually very easy as long as you stick to a few basic rules...

1. Never overwater bulbs as they will rot. If the soil around the bulbs is damp to the touch, they do not need watering.
2. Do not allow bulbs to dry out. If bulbs do not get enough water they will not grow. Check the daily and if in doubt water little but often.
3. Never position bulbs near a heat source. Positioning any potted plant near a radiator or fire will dry the plant out.
4. Always read the instructions. Follow the instructions on the packaging the bulbs come in. They will be detailed with planting times, depths, spacing and flowering periods.

Here are a few common reasons why bulbs do not grow outside.

Did you plant the bulbs upside-down?

Bulbs should be planted with the pointy side up but if you are ever unsure simply plant the bulb on its side and it will find its way to the surface. Please bear in mind that doing this may cause your bulbs to take longer to grow.

Did you plant too late in the season?

If you forgot to plant, you can put the bulbs in the ground later, but you probably won't see much growth the first year.

Did you plant the bulbs too deeply (or not deep enough)?

As a general rule, bulbs should be planted at a depth about three times their height. Always check packaging for correct planting depths but you can find more information on our downloadable bulb planting guide on the website.

Did you remove the foliage too soon after last year's blooming season?

You can cut the bare flower stalks, but always leave the foliage in place until it turns yellow. The bulbs need to convert energy from the sun into food required to sustain the bulbs for the next growing season and need the foliage to do this. Always allow bulbs to die back naturally.

Are your bulbs old or overcrowded?

If so, this can be a reason for bulbs not coming up. This problem is usually easily remedied by digging and moving or dividing the bulbs after the foliage begins to turn die down and yellow.

Do you have wild visitors?

Squirrels, birds and rodents love bulbs, especially in the colder months when food can be scarce. To protect your bulbs you can cover them with netting or chicken wire.

Bad Drainage?

Bulbs will rot in soggy, muddy soil so take care when watering them. Outdoors, bulbs shouldn't need watering unless the weather is particularly hot or dry. If this is the case, give them a good watering once a week.

Are the bulbs planted in a sunny location?

Bulbs need at least six hours of sunlight per day so make sure you pick a good spot in the garden or indoors.

