

Bulbs come closer to guaranteeing success more than any other type of garden plant. Since all the nutrients the flower needs are stored in the bulb, it's hard to make a mistake. The biggest challenge is to select and plant the right bulb.

Preparing the Soil

Most bulbs adapt to many types of soil, but nearly all prefer a loose, porous soil structure. This allows for good drainage. In Brevard, most soils are sandy and should be improved by adding organic matter. Spread about 1 inch deep in the area to be planted and then work into soil to a depth of 4 to 6 inches.

Fertilizing

When you plant, mix some **Bone Meal** at the bottom of each planting hole. The phosphorus in the bone meal does not move readily through the soil as other plant nutrients do, so it must be placed at a depth where the roots can reach it. Scatter **Espoma Flower-Tone** on the ground around the new growth once per month during the growing season.

Planting As a general rule, plant bulbs as soon as possible after purchase. On some bulbs such as caladiums, delay planting until the threat of freezing weather is past if purchased early in the spring. Most bulbs are planted at a depth that is equal to three times their diameter. Check the following chart for specific depths.



Name	Type	Planting	Depth	Spacing	Blooming	Light	Flower Colors
Allium <i>Allium spp</i>	Bulb	Spring	2-3 times the diameter of the bulb	6"-18"	Spring, summer, and fall	Full sun	Many colors
Amaryllis <i>Hippeastrum spp</i>	Bulb	Sept-Jan	Tip at soil level	10"-12"	Spring	Partial shade to full sun	White to deep red
Amazon Lily <i>Eucharis grandiflora</i>	Bulb	Feb-May	Tip on surface of soil	3-4 bulbs	Winter	Partial shade	White
Begonia <i>Begonia spp</i>	Tuber	Spring	1"2-"	12"-15"	Summer	Partial shade	Many colors
Blood Lily <i>Hedychium spp</i>	Rhizome	Summer	Just below the surface	Best in pots	Summer	Partial shade	Red
Caladium <i>Caladium hybrids</i>	Tuber	Feb-May	2"	12"-18"	Summer to autumn	Full sun to partial shade	Grown for its colored foliage
Calla <i>Zantedeschia spp</i>	Rhizome	Sept-Jan	3"-4"	1'-2'	Spring	Full sun to partial shade	White, pink & yellow
Canna <i>Canna hybrids</i>	Rhizome	Feb-Apr	2"	12"-14"	May to Dec	Full sun to partial shade	Red, yellow, and orange
Clivia <i>Clivia miniata</i>	Bulb	Any time of the year	Just below the surface	18"-24"	Spring	Partial shade	Orange to scarlet
Crinum	Bulb	Any time	Neck of bulb	12"-18"	Spring and	Full sun to	White to deep

<i>Crinum spp</i>			above ground		summer	partial shade	rose
Cyclamen <i>Cyclamen spp</i>	Tuber	Midsummer and fall	Just below surface of soil	6"-8"	Winter and spring	Light shade	Many colors
Dahlia <i>Dahlia spp</i>	Tuberous	Feb-March	Top of tubers at soil level	15"-30"	Early summer	Full sun	Many colors
Dutch Iris <i>Iris hybrids</i>	Bulb	Nov-Feb	4"	3"	March-May	Full sun	Many colors
Elephant Ears <i>Alocasia spp</i>	Rhizome	Sept-Dec	4"	2'-4'	Spring	Full sun to light shade	Flowers insignificant
Gladiolus <i>Gladiolus spp</i>	Corm	Year round	4"	4"-6"	Three months after planting	Full sun	Many colors
Gloriosa Lily <i>Gloriosa spp</i>	Tuber	Jan-Apr	4"	1'	March-Sept	Full sun to partial shade	Crimson & yellow, orange
Gloxinia <i>Sinningia speciosa</i>	Tuberous	Dec-March	At surface of soil	One per pot	April-July	Partial shade	Many colors
Lilies <i>Lilium spp</i>	Bulb	Fall early spring	4"-6"	9"-10"	Spring & summer	Full sun to partial shade	White, yellow, orange, and red
Narcissus <i>Narcissus tazetta</i>	Bulb	Sept-Dec	4"	8"	Spring	Full sun to partial shade	White, cream, yellow, orange
Shell Ginger <i>Alpinia zerumbet</i>	Rhizome	Spring or Fall	Just below the surface	1'2'	Summer	Full sun to partial shade	White with yellow, brown and red

Spider Lily <i>Hymenocallis</i> <i>spp</i>	Bulb	Anytime	3"-5"	12"-15"	Spring and summer	Full sun	White, yellow
Tuberose <i>Polianthes</i> <i>Tuberosa</i>	Rhizome	Jan-March	2"	12"	Summer and fall	Full sun	White
Voodoo Lily <i>Amorphophallus</i> <i>spp</i>	Corm	Dec-March	4"	6"-3'	Spring often before leaves	Sun or partial	Reddish purple