

PAPERWHITE NARCISSUS

Paperwhites are often considered a holiday classic as they can be easily forced indoors from late fall through spring. Their highly fragrant, cheery white blooms can perfume a room with ease, lasting for weeks during the cool, gray days of winter. Easily forced indoors, below are some tips to ensure success with your holiday classic.



FORCING INDOORS –

1. Pot Selection

- Choose a shallow dish or bulb pan
- Bulb vases can also work very well for your Paperwhites
- Beautiful glass vases can also be used for paperwhites
- TIP: If you choose to force your paperwhites in soil, be sure the pot drains well. If growing in gravel or pebbles, be sure to choose a pot or vase that does not drain.

2. Plant Properly

- Choose whether you will plant your bulbs in gravel, soil, or water
- Fill your selected container three-quarters full with substrate (gravel or soil).
- If using clear glass vases, consider using acrylic or glass pebbles as a substrate. Fill as described above.
- Be sure gravel or pebbles have been thoroughly washed before planting
- Place bulbs into substrate, root side down. Add more substrate to anchor your bulbs in place. Your bulbs should be buried no more than half way up the bulb.

3. Provide Proper Water and Light

- Once you've planted properly, fill water up to base of bulbs; bulbs sitting in water regularly will cause them to rot.
- Place planted bulbs in a well lit room with plenty of bright light available

4. Care

- To keep bloom stalks sturdy and from falling over as your plants mature, replace water with a 50/50 mixture of water and drinking alcohol (Gin and Vodka are rumored to be best).
- Keep growing plants well watered and do not allow to dry out
- For continuous bloom during the holidays, plant new pots weekly from mid-October to February. Blooming should occur approximately 6-8 wks after planting.

