



## Bulbs 101

Is this your first time planting bulbs? Or maybe it's just been a while since you've had a tulip in your life. Whatever the reason, read on to be refreshed on the basics of these surprisingly simple beauties.

*Q: What are bulbs and why are they important?*

A: A flower bulb is an underground storehouse and flower factory, containing everything the plant will need to sprout and flower in its first bloom season. But don't let the idea of planting intimidate you—all the bulb needs from you is to be placed in the ground at the right time of year, some water to quench its thirst and a little time to grow.

*Q: I know about tulips, but what other flowers come from bulbs?*

A: Bulbs are the storehouse for many flowering beauties including crocus, daffodils, dahlias, lilies, freesia, gladiolas, hyacinths, iris, narcissus and more.

*Q: How do you know when to plant bulbs?*

A: The flower bulbs should be planted as soon as possible after you have purchased them, although it can vary depending on local climate. Here's a good rule of thumb: the colder the climate, the earlier you should plant. Regardless, spring-flowering bulbs must be planted before the first hard frost of the preceding fall to allow for sufficient root development. For more information, go to [DigDropDone.com](http://DigDropDone.com).

*Q: Where can I buy them?*

A: A number of retail outlets, both on- and offline, offer great bulb selections. The most popular include large retailers, home improvement stores and local nurseries. You can also buy them from garden centers, mail-order catalogs, supermarkets, specialty stores and the internet.

*Q: What other basics do I need to know about bulbs?*

A: Look on the package for flower color, planting month, blooming months, projected growth and depth for planting. If you are interested in additional planting tips, family activities with bulbs, deeper information on bulb varieties or a gallery of inspiration, go to [DigDropDone.com](http://DigDropDone.com).