



Garden Tips

Amaryllis For Next Year



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As the flowers on your holiday Amaryllis fade, pick them off, leaving most of the stalk to die back. The stalk is feeding nutrients to the bulb which is pretty well spent after producing such impressive blooms. It's okay to remove the stalk when it has turned pale and begun to dry out.

Water the bulb occasionally, letting the top of the soil dry out before each watering. Mix a liquid fertilizer into the water at half strength. Keep the amaryllis bulb indoors with as much light as possible until mid-May. Once the weather is warm enough, it can be moved outside, exposing it to the sun gradually.

The bulb may be planted in the garden or left in a pot till the first hard frost, when it should come inside again to rest for a month or two. Then repot in a pot that is only slightly larger than the first; amaryllis like to be crowded. Water once, and don't water again till growth has begun. If it doesn't bloom this time, it didn't restore enough energy to the bulb. Keep it in good light and it will flower the following year.