



Grow Your Own Tulips In Pots:

1. Firstly add a layer of gravel to the bottom of a large container to provide drainage.
2. Add a multi-purpose (peat-free) compost, filling the container to around 20cm below the rim/top of container.
3. Firm the compost down, to provide a surface for the bulbs.
4. Place the tulip bulbs about 5-8cm apart, with the tips of the bulbs pointing up.
5. Cover the bulbs with more compost, filling the container to within 5cm of the top of the container. Make sure to firm the compost down between the bulbs.
6. Water thoroughly to soak the compost.
7. Stand the container in a sheltered position over autumn and winter. Ensure the compost stays moist but does not freeze during cold spells.
8. Move the container into the sun in spring to enjoy flowers between April and May.

Extra Tip!!

- If you want to keep your bulbs for next year, remove the spent blooms after flowering. Cut the flower stems down to the base so the bulbs don't waste energy trying to produce seed.

Diseases Affecting Tulips:

- **Tulip Fire** – Affects the leaves, stems and flowers. Leaves emerge twisted and distorted with brown spots. These spots also occur on stems and flowers. In damp conditions, a fuzzy grey mould develops and flowers rot rapidly.
Solution: There are no fungicides to treat this so remove and destroy infected plants. Avoid planting in the infected soil for three years.
- **Tulip Grey Bulb Rot** – This disease infects the neck first before working downwards. Foliage may fail to emerge and leaves may become distorted.
Solution: There are no fungicides to treat this so dig up and destroy infected bulbs. Do not replant these areas with tulips for about five years.
- **Tulip Leaf Spot** – This produces small brown scars on the leaves. Also leaf growth causes curving or holes where dead tissue has torn.
Solution: There are no fungicides to treat this so remove affected leaves. Severely affected bulbs should ideally be burned.
- **Common Viruses** – Symptoms include colour breaks/streaks in flowers, mottled leaves, brown spots and stunted/distorted plants.
Solution: Without the use of chemical controls, eliminate infected plants.