

## Tips for Success

**Water:** Once you have gotten your bulbs planted, give them a generous watering. Continue to water throughout the autumn and winter if the soil is not getting sufficient precipitation from rain or snow. Determine if they need water by putting your finger in the top of the soil and if the top inch is dry then that means it is time to water.

**When to Plant My Bulbs:** These bulbs must be planted in the fall because they require a period of 6 weeks of cool temperatures in order to encourage flower formation. If you live in Zones 3-8 the time to plant is when the ground is cool and evening temperatures average 40-50F. This is typically about 6 weeks before the ground freezes. If you live in Zones 9-11, it is necessary to pre-chill the bulbs. Simply leave bulbs in their bags and place in a refrigerator for 8-10 weeks and then plant. Make sure you don't store bulbs near fruit such as apples or pears because as they ripen they can cause bulbs to rot.

**What if I forgot to Plant some Bulbs?:** If the bulbs still look plump and are firm to the touch then plant them! Most bulbs are pretty tough and will still perform, albeit later than if they had been planted in the fall.

**Plant Care after Flowers have finished:** In order to ensure that your bulbs return the following year, after the flowers have finished you must leave the foliage in the ground for at least 8 weeks. During this time the foliage absorbs sunlight which it transforms into stored energy that it will use the following spring for growth. If you do not want the bulbs to flower the following year then you may take out all the spent foliage.

**Crocus:** One of the easiest of the spring bulbs, crocus can be planted just about anywhere. Many botanical gardens like to plant them directly in the lawn for a fun color transformation each spring. They excel when planted in a mass setting, planting dozens and dozens of bulbs together. These reliable bloomers are one of the first to unveil themselves each spring, even blooming right through the snow some years!



## Roberta's Gardens PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



**Crocus Collection**  
Crocus hybrids



We aren't happy if you aren't happy. If you have any questions regarding your order please call us at **1-800-428-9726** during the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm EST.

You can email questions to us at: [plantquestions@robertasinc.com](mailto:plantquestions@robertasinc.com). If your bulbs, cuttings, etc. do not sprout, or your plant dies within one year from the date of shipment, we will send you a replacement free of charge. We cannot accept responsibility for losses due to extreme weather or neglect. Simply call us at the above toll free number or fill out the plant replacement form on our website at [www.robertasinc.com](http://www.robertasinc.com).

Roberta's will replace it with a similar or comparable plant at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will ship the following year.

Neither the retailer nor any other company involved in the sale or promotion of this product is a co-warrantor of this plant warranty.

Perennials

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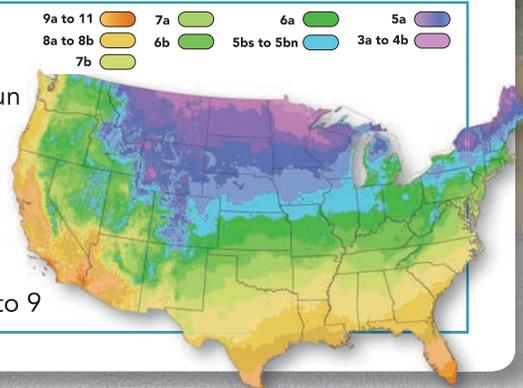
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## Quick Reference

-  Plant Type: Perennial
-  Light/Sun: Full to Partial Sun
-  Mature Height: 4-6"
-  Mature Spread: 2-4"
-  Bloom Time: Early spring
-  USDA Hardiness Zones: 3 to 9



## Plant Caretaking

**Upon Arrival:** Please take plants out of the box immediately and remove any shipping materials from around the plants.

**Planting Depth & Spacing:** Plant bulbs twice as deep as they are tall. For example, a bulb that is 3 inches tall should be planted 6 inches deep. Space bulbs the distance of the mature spread as shown in Quick Reference Planting Guide. They look great when clustered closely, about 3" apart.

**Potted Plants:** Bulbs will often perform better in ground rather than containers but if using pots make sure your container has holes to allow excess water to drain. In a 12" container you can up to about 8 bulbs.

**Soil Preparation:** Bulbs need a site with soil that is well-draining and will receive about 6 hours of sunlight a day. Amend heavy soils with potting mix and then add a 1-2 inch layer of mulch after the ground freezes, shortly after planting.

**Watering:** To determine if your plant needs water, put your finger in the top of the soil and if the top inch is dry, it is time to water. Beware, bulbs do not like soggy environments.

**Where to Plant:** Bulbs love a sunny location that drains well. They look great when clustered closely to one another for a dense display of color. They will grow just about anywhere, even if planted directly in the lawn.

**Fertilizer:** Use Roberta's Bounty a couple weeks after planting in the fall and then again once in the spring when sprouts emerge.

**Pruning:** It is necessary to allow foliage to remain on plants after flowering for at least 8 weeks so that the bulbs can store energy to produce flowers the following year. You may cut the foliage back after this period.

## Planting Steps

**Step 1** Remove plastic bag or sleeve from around the bulbs and discard any packing materials. If necessary, you may store bulbs for a month or longer in a cool dry place.

**Step 2** Bulbs require soil that drains well year round. When choosing your garden location, it is helpful to amend heavy soils with potting mix. Choose a place in the garden or a container and dig a hole that is twice as deep as the height of your bulb. For instance, a bulb that is 2" tall requires a 4" deep hole. The bottom of the bulb will have small, thin wiry roots coming out. If no roots are visible and you cannot discern the top from bottom, plant bulbs on their side.

**Step 3** Plant in the garden or in containers when evening temperatures average between 40-50F, and before the ground freezes. Nestle bulbs in the hole and fill the hole with soil to the level of the flowerbed.

**Step 4** Water in bulbs nicely right after planting. Continue to water through the winter if there is not adequate rainfall. Bulbs do not like soggy conditions, so only water when necessary. Typically watering every 10-14 days is sufficient.

**Step 6** Apply a 1-2" layer of mulch on top of planting site once the ground freezes, typically a month or so after planting.

