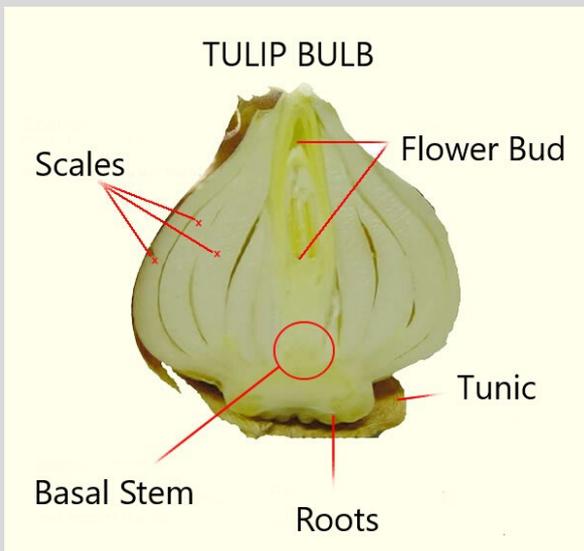


TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL TULIPS

CHEEKWOOD IN BLOOM 2020



WHAT'S IN A BULB?

Cheekwood in Bloom features more than 150,000 colorful blooming bulbs, including tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths.

PARTS OF A BULB:

- Scales: Thick, fleshy leaves, that are arranged around the stem
- Flower Bud: Lives in the center of the bulb
- Basal Stem: The compressed stem connects the flower, scales, and roots of the plant
- Roots: Grow out from the basal stem
- Tunic: The papery outer covering of the bulb

SOURCES:

- Boeckmann, Catherine. "Tulips." Old Farmer's Almanac, www.almanac.com/plant/tulips.
- "Bulb Expert Tips." Expert Gardening Tips, 2019, www.tulips.com/bulbs_expert_tips.

PLANTING

- Tulip bulbs should be planted in late fall
 - 6-8 weeks before a hard, ground-freezing frost
 - It is best to plant bulbs when the average evening temperatures are between 40°- 50°F.
- Plant bulbs 6-8 inches deep in the soil for proper drainage, and 4-6 inches apart.
- Tulips bloom in early spring for about one month
- Check the variety of tulip and its bloom time!
 - If you plant different varieties of tulip with different blooming periods, you can have a lush garden bed all spring.

SOIL

- Tulips can grow in nearly any type of soil except clay, but they prefer a loose, sandy soil rich with organic materials.
- Soil should be tilled to loosen before planting- about 12-15 inches deep.
- Add compost each year to provide additional nutrients for future blooms.

WATER

- Bulbs should be watered immediately after planting to jump-start root growth.
- Avoid over-watering! A bulb in a puddle will rot!
- After the bulb has been planted, the area should be checked weekly, and should be watered only if rainfall isn't keeping the soil moist.
- Once the tulip emerges, water the surrounding soil when dry 1/2 inch below the surface.

SUNLIGHT

- Tulips grow best in areas with full or afternoon sun. The tulips should not be planted in an area where they get full sun during the *hottest* part of the day; afternoon shade can prolong the life of the bloom.



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