

Paper-White Narcissus

(Narcissus tazetta)

One of the easiest bulbs to grow for scent, paper-white narcissus produces clusters of white blossoms atop tall, slender stems. It grows well in water, or grow in soil as for other bulbs.

Light

Place in dark during root formation and high light during budding and flowering.

Water

Keep bulbs moist at all times. If allowed to dry, buds will fail to form or blooms will fade quickly.

Temperature

Maintain cool temperatures for best growth. Tolerates average temperatures.

Comments

Fill shallow dish with pebbles or marble chips. Plant bulbs in dish so that half of each bulb is under the pebbles. Plant as many bulbs as the dish will allow without bulbs touching the side of the dish or each other. Moisten pebbles so that water just touches base of each bulb. Place dish in darkness for 10 days as roots form. Check moisture daily. When growth starts, bring bulbs gradually into bright light. Maintain temperatures in the low 60s. Place supports in dish to stop stems from toppling, or place rubber band around stems to keep them in a tight bunch. Discard bulbs after blooms fade. If you prefer to save bulbs, use soil culture as you would for crocus, hyacinth, and other bulbs.