

Bulb planting

Top tips from Englefield Estate's Head Gardener, Sue Broughton

The autumn and winter months are ideal for planting bulbs to ensure a bright pop of colour in the springtime.

- Consider the visual impact – think about the number of bulbs and variety you'll need to make the best use of your space.
- Beware... rabbits and squirrels seem to have an appetite for bulbs, so plant them as deep as possible! The recommended depth is three times the bulb size.
- Choose the best quality and the largest size bulb you can afford for the best results year after year.
- Once bulbs have flowered, remove the flower head to allow energy to return to the bulb from the leaves and stem as they die back.



What bulbs should I choose?

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Daffodils make for a beautiful sight in a woodland setting and garden borders. White varieties can light up a shaded area and yellow flowers are a cheerful beacon after a cold winter.

Alliums, although belonging to the same family as the onion family, are much more attractive! They are best replanted each year but can last for two years.



The **imperial fritillary** produces bell shaped flowers in a variety of colours. They need to be planted at least 30cm down and make excellent plants for pots.



Top tips for elsewhere in your garden:

Whilst the ground is still warm enough, **mulch the borders** so that the weeds are suppressed, and the moisture and warmth is retained in the soil.

You could also show your lawn some love and apply a **weed, feed and moss killing treatment**.