

How to...

# Start Dahlias Indoors



Dahlias are very easy to grow from tubers and can be started indoors to give you early summer blooms or to provide early shoots for cuttings.

Dahlia tubers vary in size, so choose a pot that is big enough to fit the roots. Part fill the pot with compost, then set the tuber in place and fill it with more compost until the pot is filled to about 2cm from the rim.

Lightly firm the compost with your fingers around the roots, making sure the spaces are filled. If you need to add more compost, do so now. Ensure the whole tuber is covered right to the top, with a small amount of last year's stem and any new shoots just showing.

Water thoroughly from above, then top up with more compost if required. Let the excess water drain away completely and place the pot in a warm, bright, frost free position. At the end of May or early June, after the risk of frost has passed, the tubers can be planted outdoors, providing you with early blooms in the garden.