

# DAFFODILS



*Daffodils are one of the easiest flowers to grow and a perfect choice for the beginning gardener.*

At planting, a daffodil is a preprogrammed, self contained flowering machine. Given it is poisonous, no animals eat it.

Once your beautiful daffodils are blooming in your garden, you are probably going to feel the need to cut some for an equally beautiful bouquet in your house. It is important to cut the flower with a sharp knife and on an angle. Only cut the length of stem you need for your vase. Leave as much of the stalk and as many leaves on the stalk as possible to permit the bulb to reenergize itself.

In a bouquet, use a clean vase. Every 4 days remove the flowers and cut off about 1 inch from the bottom of the

flower stems under water and at an angle. Also change the water at the same time.

The daffodil bulb renews itself through its foliage each year. After flowering, the foliage must be allowed to grow and mature and die back. The foliage is a nice green at first, continues to elongate, and then turns yellow and finally turns brown, falls over and dries up. This process is critical for the bulb's ongoing health and blooming ability and it can look a little ugly. If you remove the foliage prematurely, the bulb will suffer and blooming will decrease or cease altogether.