

“Love Grows” Bulb Garden

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In a clear container, create a lush, mossy garden of spring bulbs in bright jewel tones.



Supplies

- One gallon potted tulips (four to five bulbs)
- Two 4" potted ranunculuses
- Two 2" potted hyacinths
- Two 2" potted muscari
- Two 4" potted Scotch moss plants (one light green, one dark green)
- Gardening shears
- Clear 10" x 12" cylindrical glass container
- One package dried sheet moss (to line container)
- Pea gravel
- Gardening charcoal
- Potting soil

Directions

- 1** Prepare the bulbs by removing them from their pots and shaking off any excess soil. Separate bulbs that have been potted together by gently loosening any intertwined roots. Snip off bruised leaves and petals.
- 2** Line the sides of the bottom half of the glass cylinder with sheet moss so the moss is facing outward. While holding the sheet moss in place, fill the bottom of your container with about 1" of pea gravel. Next, add a thin layer of gardening charcoal on top of the pea gravel. (This is great for containers without drainage holes because the charcoal absorbs excess moisture.) Finally, fill the cylinder with moistened potting soil until it's an inch below the top of the sheet-moss lining.
- 3** Before you begin planting, place the bulbs loosely on top of the soil to plan the layout of the garden. Start by placing the taller plants in the center of the cylinder, then work your way out with the medium bulbs. Place the shortest bulbs closest to the glass. As you add more bulbs to the container, remove any excess leaves and bushy foliage that block other flowers.
- 4** Once you're pleased with the design, remove bulbs and set aside, being careful to keep the arrangement in order. (Snap a photo for reference.) Begin planting from the center outward. Gently push each bulb root into the soil (but don't press them all the way in!) and add soil until the bottom half of the bulb is covered.
- 5** As you're planting, cut or break small chunks of moss to place around the base of the bulbs and fill the gaps between plants. It helps to add in the moss as you plant each bulb—instead of waiting until all the bulbs are in—since it's more difficult to reach inside the container as it becomes full.
- 6** When all the bulbs are planted, gently wipe any dirt from the inside of the glass. Place the container in a cool spot with bright indirect sunlight. Keep soil moist, but don't overwater—there should not be too much extra water sitting in the bottom of the container. Lightly water in a few days.