



PAPERWHITE CARE GUIDE

LIGHT

Paperwhite narcissus need no chilling period to flower indoors. Once shoots are growing, place them in a bright, sunny window. Turn the container to keep growth even. Move blooming plants out of strong direct sun for a longer display.

WATERING

In a pebble-filled bowl, keep water just touching the bulb bases so roots can reach it; do not submerge the bulbs. Check the level often. In potting mix, keep roots evenly moist and let excess water drain away.

SOIL

Set bulbs close together in clean pebbles or well-drained potting mix, leaving their tips exposed. Use a stable container and anchor bulbs securely. A ring, stakes or twine can support stems as flowers become heavy.

TEMPERATURE

Cool conditions encourage sturdy growth. After rooting, a bright room around 60-70 degrees Fahrenheit works well. Keep flowering plants away from heaters and hot sun. Bloom timing varies, so plant successive containers for a longer season of flowers.

FERTILIZING

The bulb contains the reserves needed for this indoor flowering cycle; feeding is unnecessary. After flowering, paperwhites are usually discarded or composted. They are not reliably winter-hardy outdoors in Maine and are poor candidates for forcing again.

PESTS

Start with firm bulbs and discard soft or decaying ones. Stagnant water and submerged bulbs encourage rot. Keep the container clean and inspect for insects. These ornamental bulbs are not food; keep them away from children and pets.