



## Flowering Holiday Plants

### Amaryllis:

#### Care during flowering:

- Provide bright light, but avoid direct sunlight
- Keep soil evenly moist
- Cool room will prolong flowering

#### Reblooming:

- Remove dead flowers promptly
- Place plant in direct sunlight
- Keep leaves actively growing through summer (fertilize regularly in summer)
- In fall, withhold water until leaves die
- After leaves die, store potted bulb in a cool (45-50 degrees at night) location
- After 2-3 months, resume watering; flower buds will appear in a few weeks

### Cyclamen:

#### Care during flowering:

- Cool temperatures (50-60°F at night; less than 70° during the day)
- Place plant in bright sunlight
- Keep soil evenly moist
- Do not let water settle in center of bulb

#### Reblooming:

- Very difficult!!
- After flowering, reduce watering so that foliage dies. Withhold water for 6-8 weeks
- When watering resumes, place in cool window
- As new leaves develop, place in sunny location; water and fertilize regularly

## **Holiday Cactus:**

### **Care during flowering:**

- Cool temperatures at night (55-60°F)
- Place plant in some direct sun
- Water thoroughly, but allow moderate drying between waterings
- Do not fertilize during bloom

### **Reblooming:**

From the time that bloom ends, through the end of summer:

- Place plant where it can get bright light
- Fertilize regularly, but lightly
  
- In early September, give the plant 4-6 weeks of short days (8-10 hours of light) and long nights (14-16 hours of complete dark). Plants should flower about 2 months later.
- Cool night temperatures (55°F) in September can overcome the need for long nights and stimulate bud development

## **Kalanchoe:**

### **Care during flowering:**

- Cool night temperatures (60-65°F)
- Full sun in winter
- Allow soil to dry slightly between waterings

### **Reblooming:**

- Difficult to rebloom
- Cut back tall growth & old flower stems
- During spring and summer provide bright light
- Fertilize monthly
- Give the plant 6 weeks of short days (8-10 hours of light) and long nights (14-16 hours of complete dark). When buds are visible, day length is no longer critical

## **Poinsettia:**

### **Care during flowering:**

- Maintain even soil moisture (avoid dry soil, but do not let plant sit in water)
- Avoid drafts (hot or cold)
- Temperatures between 65-70°F
- Good bright light, but not direct sun

### **Reblooming:**

- Difficult to rebloom
- After bloom, gradually reduce water until leaves yellow and drop
- Store dormant plant at 50-60°F until spring
- Water enough to keep roots from drying
- In spring, move to warm room and water
- Cuts stems back to about 6 inches
- Place in sunny window
- In fall, room temperature should be 60-65°
- Give the plant 6-8 weeks of short days (8-10 hours of light) and long nights (14-16 hours of complete dark).

## **Paperwhites:**

- Paperwhites are a type of narcissus that don't need any winter chilling.
- Fill a shallow pan or bowl with pebbles, gravel or marbles.
- Fill the pan with water, so that the water line is to the top of the pebbles.
- Place the paperwhite bulbs on top of the pebbles.
- Stand them close together, so they are almost touching.
- Nestle the bulbs into the pebbles a bit so the bottom of the bulb makes contact with the water.
- Within a couple of days you will see roots and then shoots forming.
- Flowers should be seen in about 4-5 weeks.
- Keep them in a cool room, with bright, but indirect light.
- Keep water level up to bottom of the bulbs.
- Discard after bloom.