

CROCUS AT-A-GLANCE

ABOUT

- Treated as an perennial in zones 3-8; annual elsewhere
- Plant as a corms in the fall
- Blooms in early spring
- Bright bell-shaped blooms



STATS

- Member of Iris family
- Most grow up to 6" tall & 1-3" wide
- Bloom colors include purple, white, yellow, orange, pink, and blue
- Over 80 varieties available

REQUIREMENTS

- Grow in zones 3-8
- Require full sun
- Neutral soil pH of 6.0-7.0
- Very well-draining soil
- Soil temperatures need to be above 60° F
- Requires 12-15 weeks with temperatures below 35-45° F
- Can be planted indoors in warmer locations; Store in a dark and cool place that is 35-45° F for at least 13 weeks before planting outdoors

PLANTING CORMS

- Plant outdoors in fall about 6-8 weeks before first freeze in cold locations
- Dig hole that is at least 3 times deeper than the height of corm
- Add a few inches of compost
- Plant corm with pointy end up
- Space corms 3" apart on all sides
- Cover with a 50/50 mix of compost and soil
- Lightly tamp down and water
- Corms go dormant over winter and shoots will emerge in early spring

MAINTENANCE

- Only water when soil 3" below is dry in the spring.
- Water at soil level, not overhead
- Fertilize lightly with 5-10-5 or 10-10-10 fertilizer
- Can prune dead blooms but leave on foliage
- Once foliage turns brown, can then remove

ISSUES

- Rodents & squirrels like eating fall-planted bulbs
- Gray mold and bulb rot

MISC

- Blooms will return as long as winters stay below 50° F



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keeping the fun in gardening by keeping it simple!