



care tips

summer bulbs

Thanks for purchasing your favourite Bloombol summer pack!

For the best flowering results, we collected some care tips for you.

1 before flowering

Planting time

The best time to plant your Bloombol summer mix is in May, or after Christmas. As early as possible, as long as you are sure that the risk of frost has passed. Summer bulbs cannot withstand freezing.

Type of land

Always ensure well draining soil. If the bulbs are continuously in soil that is too wet, fungi or rot can develop. Does your garden moist soil? Then make a hole where you want to put the bulbs in and sprinkle some sand or shells in first. Put a layer of soil on top and then plant your bulbs.

Fertilisation

When you see the first green dots coming up, you may add some manure to the flowers.

2 during flowering

Watering

When the flowers come up, make sure you water the border sufficiently. It often rains enough, but should it be a dry spring, turn on the garden hose from time to time.

Dahlias Topping

When the first flower buds appear on the dahlia plant, it is time to top the dahlia. What is topping? The middle long stem inside the dahlia plant is the 'top'. If you cut this away and leave three pairs of leaves below, the dahlia plants grow wider. This is advantageous as dahlias can grow quite tall and thus fall over. Also, the plant will create multiple side branches which means: more flowers!

Weeding

It really goes without saying: In order for your Bloombol mixture to be as beautiful as possible, it is important to get the weeds removed from between the flowers.

Picking dahlias!

Pick beautiful flowers from your own garden! Cut the dahlia flowers (make sure the flower bud is already slightly open otherwise it won't come out) and put them in a vase! Always leave 3 pairs of leaves when you cut a stem. This will only





make the dahlia produce more new stems, allowing you to enjoy beautiful flowers in the garden for even longer.

* Please note, this only applies to dahlias. Other summer flowers do not produce more flowers after being cut.

Dead-head spent dahlia flowers.

The flowers that have already bloomed, cut them off just before the next leaf follicle. This will prevent the plant from sending more energy to this flower and then produce seeds. The energy goes into developing new flowers.

3 after flowering

Care of non-winter-hardy summer bulbs

Most summer bulbs are not hardy. These should be removed from the ground after flowering. These are the:

- Dahlia
- Gladiolus
- Calla
- Canna
- Anemones
- Ranunculus

Cut off the flowers after flowering. That way, the bulb does not put energy into forming seed pods but into strengthening the bulb. When the leaf and stem have completely died (become brown), remove the bulb from the ground. For tubers, use a manure fork. Put it into the ground next to the tubers and 'seesaw' the tubers up. Carefully remove the soil and place the bulbs/tubers into a box on a layer of newspaper. Put the box in a dry, cool and frost-free. Place, away from where mice can reach the bulbs/tubers.

Care of hardy summer bulbs

These summer bulbs, however, are hardy:

- Crocosmia/monbretia
- Lily
- Iris
- Liatris





What should you do when the crocosmia has finished flowering?

Cut away spent flowers and stem, to stimulate flower production. Once the flowers have finished flowering at the end of September, cut these away. Do not cut away the withered foliage until March so that it gives protection to the crown of the plant. Water regularly, as the soil around the tubers should not dry out. In severe frosts, cover the plant with a good layer of leaves or mulch (shredded garden waste).

What to do when the lilies have finished blooming?

Cut off spent flowers so that all energy can go into the bulb, but leave 2/3rds of the stem. Leave the leaves to yellow and die. Do not remove the stem and leaves until they turn brown. Transplant lilies after 4-5 years. Dig up the bulbs when the stems have died (September-October), divide them and place them back into the ground. The roots do not die so make sure that as many roots as possible remain on the bulb.

What to do when the irises have flowered?

Remove wilted flowers and stems after flowering, but leave the leaves.

What should you do when the liatris have flowered?

When liatris have finished flowering, cut off the withered flowers. Otherwise, the liatris needs little care.

