

The American Daffodil Society
DaffodilUSA.org

How do daffodils grow?

Our daffodil story begins and ends with a flower. Discover the steps needed to produce a new flower—from pollination to flowering bulb.

POLLINATION STARTS THE PROCESS

Be like a bee

Pollinate a blossom using tweezers or a paintbrush. Take tiny pollen grains from the anther of one daffodil and transfer them to the stigma of another growing daffodil flower.



Look for the six anthers covered with pollen. They surround the stigma.



Notice that the central stamen is being used to dab the pollen.

WITHIN HOURS OF POLLINATION

Wait for fertilization

Each pollen grain grows from the stigma down the style to fertilize one immature egg cell in the ovary and may result in one daffodil seed.



Locate the stigma, style, and ovary in this growing daffodil.



Can you find the immature egg cells in this opening of a mature ovary?

ABOUT 2 MONTHS LATER

Harvest and plant ripe seeds

When you shake the dried seed pod or ovary and can hear the mature seeds rattling around inside, it's time to pluck the seed pod. Plant seeds in a light soil mix one-half inch deep.



Look for small, black daffodil seeds. Be sure to shake the seed pod.



Notice the small seeds dropped into slight depressions in the soil. The soil should be kept slightly moist until the next spring.

1 YEAR

Nurture young seedlings

Be sure your plants receive at least half a day of sun. These little ones need growers about twice requirements.



Young daffodil seedlings look like weeds, with narrow leaves. They little bulbs are just getting started.

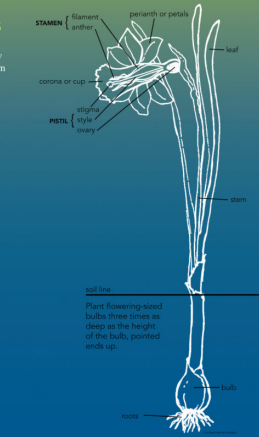
2 YEARS

Grow bulbs over time

Dig and re-plant young bulbs in a well-draining pot. These little bulbs are still 1 to 2 years from seeing flowers in bloom.



Like an onion, daffodil bulbs grow in layers and increase in size. These tiny bulbs are still 1 to 2 years from seeing flowers in bloom.



soil line

Plant flowering-sized bulbs three times as deep as the height of the bulb, pointed ends up.

What is a daffodil?

Daffodil or Narcissus?
They're the same thing! Narcissus is Latin, and daffodil is English for the same thing.

Daffodil or Jonquil?
They're not the same thing! Jonquils are only one division of daffodils (Division 7). So all jonquils are daffodils, but not all daffodils are jonquils.

daffodilusa.org
Home web site of the American Daffodil Society, the United States center for daffodil information.

stores.daffodilusa.org
See the AHS on position. Friends, publications, supplies and more from the AHS Webstore.

daffilibrary.org
The American Daffodil Society library, filled with over 3,000 archived publications about daffodils.

daffnet.org
A daffodil discussion forum for daffodil enthusiasts around the world.

dafftube.org
A repository of new videos and PowerPoint/PDF presentations and programs about daffodils.

daffseek.org
12,000 more than 35,000 named daffodils. See photos and descriptive information.



The American Daffodil Society is an internationally recognized nonprofit organization. Our daffodil database is available to the non-commercial development of daffodils. Our Society is open to everyone from hobbyists and beginning gardeners to experienced botanists and daffodil experts. The AHS is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

The AHS is an authorized member of the National Botanical Garden and the Science Museum of Minnesota.