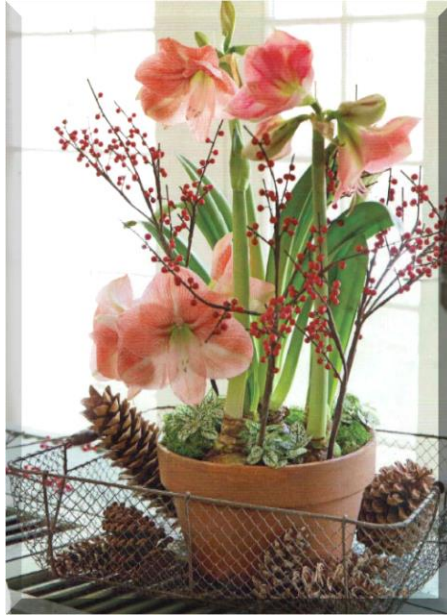


POTTED AMARYLLIS IN AN ARRANGEMENT OF BRANCHES



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OBJECTIVE(S): EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY

Each participant will plant amaryllis bulbs and other small plants in a pot, and enhance the planting with an arrangement of branches.

TAKE AWAY

MATERIALS:

(Plan for 8-10 patients. Eight is supposed to be the maximum, but sometimes we get 10.)

- ___ Pens
- ___ Markers
- ___ Dishpans for dirt (2 available in BRI supply cabinet)
- ___ Watering cans (2 available in BRI supply cabinet) or individual watering bottles for patients to use
- ___ Name tags for patients (check BRI supply cabinet)
- ___ Example of completed project you're doing
- ___ A extra set of the patient-project materials listed below in order for you to demonstrate the project.
- ___ Completed presentation forms (1 to BRI and 1 mailed to ext. office)
- ___ Your clean receipts for materials purchased (give to BRI therapists)

____ Other

ITEMS SPECIFICALLY needed for this project:

- Winterberry branches, or other appropriate branches with berries, such as beautyberries
- 3-4 small polka-dot houseplants per container (*Hypoestes phyllostachya*)
- Amaryllis bulbs (3 per pot)
 - NOTE: Salmon-hue 'Faro' amaryllis is pictured on page 1, but any variety can be used.*
- Large clay or painted plastic containers that will fit 3 amaryllis bulbs
 - (NOTE: If you are using a plastic pot, you may want to consider putting a stone in the bottom of the pot to add weight for top-heavy amaryllis.)*
- Saucers, if needed
- Potting soil
- Rainbow moss

IS A POWERPOINT OR PREZI PRESENTATION AVAILABLE? No

HANDOUTS?

BEFORE CLASS

1. Allow time to collect several berried branches. Remove leaves from branches.
2. Drill hole in the bottom of the plastic containers, if needed.
3. If using plain plastic containers, paint them.

DURING CLASS

- 1.
- 2.
3. Fill container about 1/2 to 3/4 full of potting soil.
4. Place the bulbs, pointy end up/roots down, in the pot, filling around it with soil, keeping the bulb's neck and half the bulb exposed.
5. Plant 3-4 small polka-dot houseplants around the bulbs.
6. Place 2 or 3 berried branches into pot. Branches are not only decorative, but will also add support to tall amaryllis stems as they grow.
7. Cover soil surface with moss, leaving tops of amaryllis bulbs exposed.
8. Water potted amaryllis and plants.
9. Place in a sunny window.

MAINTENANCE

Place the pot indoors in a sunny window (the more sun the better) and keep the soil evenly moist. When the flower stalk begins to emerge, rotate the pot about one-half turn every few days so it will grow straight. If you provide your amaryllis with too little light, the flower stalk will grow excessively tall and may even fall over. Flowering generally

occurs about six to eight weeks after planting the bulb. Some large bulbs will produce two flower stalks.

Sometime after the flower spike has emerged, leaves will grow from the top of the bulb. After

the flowers have faded, cut the stalk at the point where it emerges from the bulb, but do not cut any foliage. Keep the plant inside and continue to provide plenty of light.

INFORMATION/DESCRIPTION/FACTS:

- Amaryllises are **no-chill bulbs** and generally take **6-8 weeks** to start blooming after planting indoors, although **this can vary quite a bit** by cultivar.
- The flowers can last **3-6 weeks**.
- To prepare an **amaryllis** (a 6-8 week one) for **Valentine's Day**, get it planted by **mid December**. It should be in bloom in **early February**.
- Alternately, start it a little later and let the recipient have the joy of seeing the blooms unfold each day.

SOURCES:

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