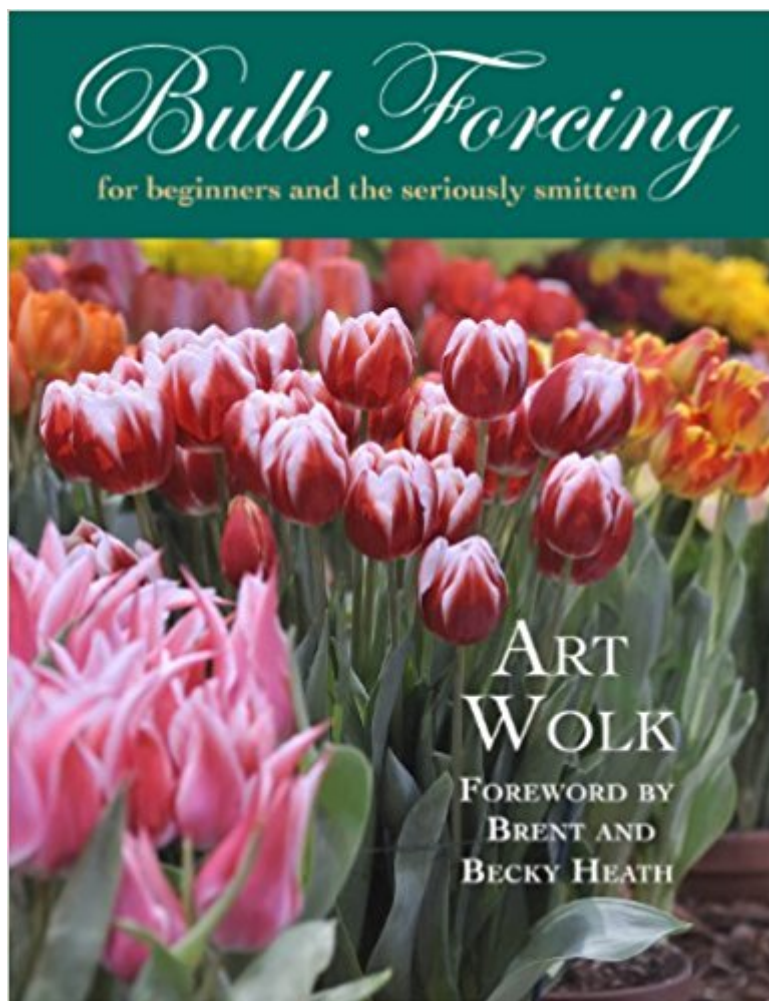


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Bulb Forcing For Beginners And The Seriously Smitten



Synopsis

You can grow tulips, daffodils, crocuses, and the rest of their spring-blooming brethren indoors, all winter long, when the view outside your window reveals snow, sleet, or icy rain. Instead, imagine your windowsills filled with an array of dazzling flowers. In this informative and entertaining book, famed bulb forcer Art Wolk humorously reveals the secrets he's used for three decades to win silver cups and baskets of blue ribbons. And, he admits, bulb forcing requires no Green Thumb. As long as you can put soil and bulbs in a pot without mortally wounding yourself, you'll succeed. Wolk's book is filled with laugh-out-loud humor and more than 350 glorious photos that show you exactly how to produce your own indoor, wintertime flower show every year.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

With contagious enthusiasm, Wolk, who has won a Quill & Trowel Award for his garden writing, gives a preliminary introduction to the five types of bulbs. Then, most important, he divulges his personally tested bulb-forcing methods honed through 30 years of experience. Never intimidating or dull, the book's clear steps for coaxing common and unusual bulbs into bloom are accompanied by compelling illustrations, including stunning two-page color photo spreads and cartoons, along with enough humorous anecdotes about mishaps to put beginners at ease. Few readers will go to the extreme of renting cooler space for bulbs, but gardeners will find other, easier tips for chilling bulbs so they will grow indoors, photographing them, and dealing with problems. Experienced gardeners will relish Wolk's insider insights about flower shows and enjoy his behind-the-scenes look at a

commercial bulb house. VERDICT This funny and well-illustrated work is the best recent source for amateur gardeners on bulb forcing. Highly recommended -Library Journal Gardeners are known to force bulbs into bloom during the dark days of winter, especially gardeners who live in the northern climates. The splash of color that rewards us as we somehow feel in control of nature and have tricked spring into coming early bolsters our dreary mood. Art Wolk, in his new book, *Bulb Forcing For Beginners and the Seriously Smitten*, does the same thing. Being called the Dave Barry of garden writing (by Elvin McDonald) isn't far from the truth. His sharp wit and playful look at the world of bulbs can make even the most serious of gardeners grin, and frankly, the gardening world can use more like him. But Wolk knows his stuff, too. With a list of credentials as high as a paper white s eye (higher, if you use his alcohol trick to shorten the growth of their stems), you might think him to be a staid bore, what with all that education and all those awards. Far from it; Art Wolk is the quintessential educator. He's the professor that endears himself to you and makes you want to do well for all the right reasons. As if his ability to teach us the ins and outs of forcing bulbs isn't enough, he is also an accomplished photographer and *Bulb Forcing* is full of more than 350 of his beautiful images. Many are so beautiful, they just might be enough to get you through the winter without actually "forcing/coaxing/persuading/enticing/charming" a bulb yourself. But by the time Art gets done with you, you'll already be out the door and on your way to the garden center to find some. Yeah, you re gonna want some of that for your very own. Why can't all gardening books be this fun? -Horticulture Magazine If you think you know how to force bulbs, think again. Art Wolk's book raises the bar. He deftly delivers the basics, exposes all the myths, and delves into every trick possible toward putting a little spring in an otherwise dismal time of year. -Tovah Martin world-renowned author of -Tasha Tudor's Garden, -The New Terrarium, and -A Time to Blossom This is the most gorgeous new gardening book since Marina Schinz's *Visions of Paradise* (published in 1985). It is truly spectacular and the information is spot on. -Elvin McDonald, author of more than 50 garden books If I had bulbs to force, I would force Art Wolk to force them! -Mike McGrath host of National Public Radio's -You Bet Your Garden and author of -You Bet Your Tomatoes, -Mike McGrath's Book of Compost, and -Kitchen Garden A to Z ----Source: Reviews of *Bulb Forcing for Beginners and the Seriously Smitten* as well as reviews of Art's capability with bulbs --Source: Reviews of *Bulb Forcing for Beginners and the Seriously Smitten* as well as reviews of Art's capability with bulbs Art's envelope-pushing entries at the Philadelphia International Flower Show are among the finest we've enjoyed. When I see Art Wolk at the show, I as assume I'll soon be looking at blue ribbons next to his entries (and lesser awards alongside mine). -Ray Rogers, author of -The Encyclopedia of Container Plants: More than 500 Outstanding Choices for Gardeners, -Pots

in the Garden: Expert Design & Planting Techniques, and -Coleus: Rainbow Foliage for Containers and Gardens Art tells a wonderful tale here. He blends personal insights with solid information on the science that supports success. Notable for its excellent photographs and entertaining narrative, -Bulb Forcing... is sure to become the go-to guide for both novices and advanced bulb forcers. -Liz Ball, author of -Pennsylvania Gardeners' Guide and -Yard and Garden Basics -I loved this book! Art Wolk's Bulb Forcing has easy-to-access instructions, beautiful photos to inspire, and perhaps best of all, the author has a wonderful sense of humor threading through the entire book. -Kate Jerome, National Gardening Association Editor and author of -The American Garden Guides: Oriental Gardening Wolk's amazing book will tell you all you need to know about any bulb you've ever thought of forcing. He also includes bulb that you've never heard of, or thought possible to force, and tells it all with great humor. Learn from his mistakes and his prize-winning accomplishments. His smashing photos enliven every page. -Ellen Spector Platt, horticultural lecturer and author of -Garlic, Onion, and other Alliums, -Wreaths, Arrangements & Basket Decorations: Using Flowers, Foliage, Herbs and Grasses to Make Colorful Crafts, and -Natural Crafts from America's Backyards: Decorate Your Home With Wreaths, Arrangements, and Wall Decorations Gathered from Nature's Harvest Art is an extraordinary grower of forced bulbs whose entries at the Philadelphia International Flower Show are usually accompanied with blue ribbons and crowds of visitors. -Jane Pepper, President, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and author of -Jane Pepper's Garden -Art's book is totally wonderful. It's complete, the how-to illustrations are remarkably clear, and it has stunning color photography. It's sure to become a classic. -Betty Mackey, renowned garden book author and independent publisher. Every year I have looked forward to seeing Art's magnificent displays of bulbs. His entries have helped give the Horticulture display area at the Philadelphia International Flower Show its world-class status. Andrew Bunting, curator of Scott Arboretum and Philadelphia International Flower Show Chair of Horticulture --Source: Reviews of Bulb Forcing for Beginners and the Seriously Smitten as well as reviews of Art's capability with bulbs

Art Wolk is an award-winning writer, lecturer, photographer, and Grand Sweepstakes winner at the famed Philadelphia International Flower Show. He infuses his writings and lectures with a combination of horticultural expertise and sharp sense of humor. Indeed, world-renowned garden writer Elvin McDonald describes him as the Dave Barry of garden writing. Wolk has appeared on the Discovery Channel, CBS, FOX, and the Home and Garden TV Network, and has been interviewed on radio stations throughout the United States. He has lectured at such prominent institutions and events as Longwood Gardens, the Boston Flower and Garden Show, the Pennsylvania Horticultural

Society, the Wisconsin Master Gardeners Garden Visions Symposium (as keynote speaker), the Annual Meeting of Greater Memphis Master Gardeners, the Scott Arboretum, and the Philadelphia International Flower Show. His magazine articles have appeared in Better Homes and Gardens, Fine Gardening, and many other periodicals. Wolk's first book, *Garden Lunacy: A Growing Concern*, received universal acclaim by book reviewers and garden writers across the United States.

If you get just one bulb book get this one. You won't need the others!

This book is the best I have seen on this subject. It is very detailed and a fun read with plenty of humor in Art's explanations, instructions and his experiences with bulb forcing. All that aside, it's beautifully illustrated and lovely just to look at. I highly recommend it and plan on buying copies as gifts for several of my garden friends.

I think this is one of the best gardening books ever! I was so excited the first day that I couldn't sleep that night because I was planning what I would pot up in the fall. The timing of the book is perfect for ordering fall bulbs. The photographs are outstanding, but I appreciate even more the experiments the author conducted in his pursuit of perfect forced bulbs.

i do love it, enough to try to force some bulbs that should be ready to start blooming in January 2015. I can't wait to see if I did this right.

Easy read with humor and expertise all in one. Great photos to guide you through the bulb forcing process. I was so confident in the bulb forcing process after I read this book that I am forcing 20 containers for purchase this winter!

Arrived in perfect condition and is as informative as I could have hoped for. The proof will be in my February blooms.

Best book of knowledge on bulb forcing yet!

ARt Wolk is an expert in his field. His humor will make you laugh out loud while reading. His information is first-hand, easy to follow and works.

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