

# WINTER GARDENING TIPS

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## Winter containers/

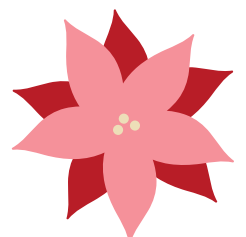
This is a lovely way to bring some colour to a season not known for it. Find a frost-proof pot and fill it with hardy, winter flowering plants. Try cyclamens, heathers, hellebores and snowdrops.

## Final weeding/

Not the most scintillating job, but a worthwhile one. Go around your beds and borders taking out any weeds - make sure not to remove perennials that have died back naturally.

## Planting bulbs for next spring/

It is not too late if one of the best gardening jobs of autumn has passed you by - fill your window boxes, flower beds, pots and borders with an array of tulips, daffodils and irises - though avoid doing this during a hard frost.





## **Mulch/**

There are many different kinds of mulch - wood chip, leaf litter, straw, compost, but they all do the same thing - release rich nutrients into the soil for next spring.

## **Prune the perennials/**

Any perennial that has finished flowering and will turn into a damp, wilting mess over the winter should be cut back - mint, cranesbill (geranium), peonies and roses fall under this.

## **Ordering seeds for next spring/**

A fun - and crucially - inside garden job to enjoy over the cold, dark winter months. Order some seed catalogues or browse online to plan your garden for next spring.

## **Clean the greenhouse, polycrub or shed/**

When struggling for things to do in the garden over the winter, this is one of the best. Clean pots, sharpen tools, organise your inventory, sweep floors and discard anything dying or you no longer need.

## **Plant a tree/**

See our upcoming tree guide for detailed information on this wonderful, environmentally-friendly job.

