

April Dahlia Growing Guide: Potting Up Cuttings and Tubers

If you took cuttings last month and now have rooted cuttings, it is time to pot them up. Place your rooted cuttings in potting soil such as the soilless mix that the club sold or that is available at garden centers. You want to select a pot that isn't much bigger than your rooted cutting such as a 4-inch pot. Wet your potting soil, place it in your container, and make a hole in the middle of your soil to insert your rooted cutting. Once inserted, firm up the soil around your rooted cutting so that you have good soil-to-root contact. Set your potted cutting where it will receive good light or under grow lights to avoid your plant getting leggy. Water your pot when the potting soil is dry. To fertilize either add slow-release fertilizer such as Osmocote to your pot or periodically fertilize with a water-soluble fertilizer such as a 20-20-20 following the label directions.

If you ordered tubers through the mail, they may start arriving this month. Once your tubers arrive, remove them promptly from their boxes. If you want to pre-sprout your tubers, follow the same process as discussed in the [March Growing Guide](#) and place them in a warm location with slightly moist potting soil. Alternatively, you can directly pot them up into a container and get them going inside before transplanting them outside next month.

Submitted by Justine Dial and Laura Matz. Adapted from the Puget Sound Dahlia Association.