

Chessington

Care & Advice

Snowdrops

Snowdrops flower during the winter and can give your garden a fresh look during the colder months. As they flower so early, snowdrops do not rely on pollinators to reproduce. Instead, they spread via bulb division.



Standing around 7–15 cm tall, snowdrops have white bell-shaped flowers at the end of an erect flowering stem with two to three leaves. Their flowers lack petals and are composed of six white flower segments known as tepals (they look like petals). The inner three tepals are smaller and have a notch in the tip, with a green upturned 'v' pattern visible.



Care

Propagate snowdrops by lifting, dividing and replanting. Established clumps can be lifted and divided after flowering in March or April.

Snowdrops do best in a well-drained soil in light shade, similar to their native woodland habitat. If you are planting snowdrop bulbs in heavy soil, add a little sharp sand or grit to the planting hole to improve drainage.

Once snowdrops are established there's no maintenance required. Leave them well alone. Allow foliage to die back naturally to ensure the nutrients from the leaves are returned to the bulbs. Divide established clumps every few years.

This guide has been put together to give a brief outline of the care needed. If you require any further information, please ask our plant advisors who will be very happy to help.

