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Paperwhites

Paperwhites require little more than water to produce fragrant white blooms. Other bulbs have to be "forced" to bloom indoors, but paperwhites do not require a chilling period. Keep the bulbs at room temperature until you plant them. Paperwhites bloom in 4-6 weeks, so plant them in succession to have blooms all winter.

To "plant" paperwhites, fill a container with at least 2-4 inches of small stones, pebbles or glass marbles. Place your paperwhites on top (close together, but not touching) roots down and nestle them into the stones a little, leaving the bulbs exposed. Finally, add water until the level reaches just below the base of the bulbs where roots will emerge. Don't submerge the base of the bulbs in water or they will rot.

In just a few days, the bulbs will start to root and the green tips will quickly shoot. Keep them watered and in about 4-6 weeks you'll have fragrant clusters of white flowers. Discard the bulbs after they're finished blooming, they'll be too exhausted to re-bloom the following year.