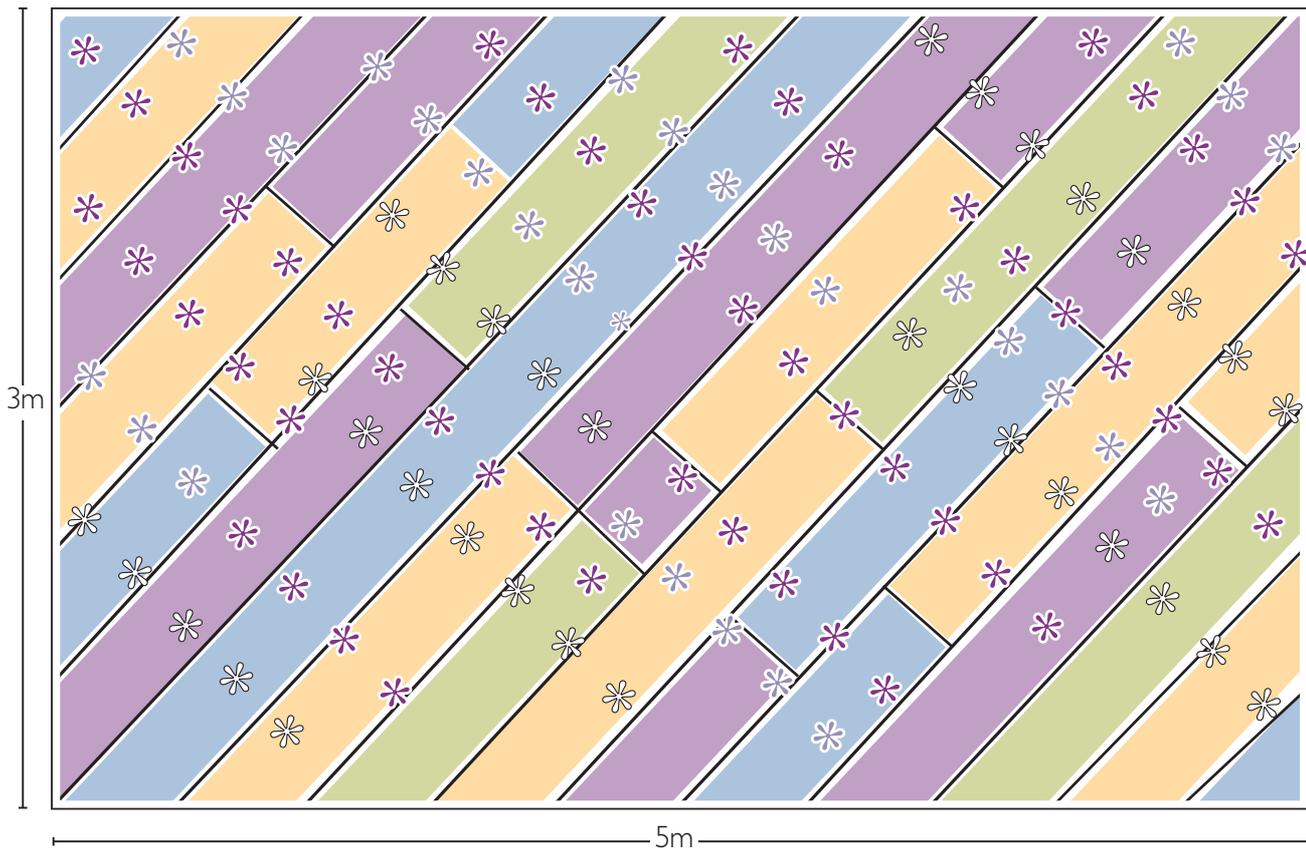


Switch on to bulbs – James Alexander-Sinclair’s design for a bulb-filled border 154 October 2009



James' list includes bulbs that flower from early spring through to the start of summer: Different kinds of bulbs are paired and planted together; to flower successionally – for example, Iris 'Katharine Hodgkin', which flowers in January, is planted with Triteleia 'Ocean Queen', which flowers in June and July (follow our colour code for help). Quantities are described as 'generous'.

- A *Crocus chrysanthus* 'Prins Claus' ■ x600. White flower flushed with mauve. 15cm tall.
- B *Tulipa turkestanica* † ■ x400. An elegant white tulip with the appealing habit of self-seeding in a rather civilised way. 15cm tall.
- C *Allium altissimum* * x150. These tall, pale mauve flowers are pretty, but hard to get hold of - try *Allium* 'Gladiator' as an alternative.
- D *Triteleia* 'Ocean Queen' ■ x400. Clear blue, vase-shaped flowers with a dark stripe. 30cm tall. Good in gravel. Flowers in June.
- E *Crocus sieberi* 'Albus' † ■ x600. (Also known as 'Bowles White'). 15cm tall.
- F *Allium atropurpureum* * x300. These have a sexy colour, and aren't completely spherical. 60cm tall.
- G *Tulipa* 'Ballerina' † ■ x500. As orange as a tropical sunset. Elegant and lily-flowered. Reaches a height of 50cm.
- H *Tulipa* 'Spring Green' † ■ x500. May-flowering. The white petals have a menthol-green streak. 50cm.
- I *Tulipa* 'Paul Scherer' ■ x500. One of the darkest flowers available. 60cm. Plant about 10 to a square metre.
- J *Iris* 'Katharine Hodgkin' † ■ x600. This bears pale blue flowers above blade-shaped leaves. 15cm tall.
- K *Allium nigrum* * x300. A greenish white species. 50cm.

†AGM - plant holds an Award of Garden Merit from the Royal Horticultural Society

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