Rotary Purple Crocus Corms

How to plant a Rotary Wheel – Approach 1

Thanks to Dave Holland of Eyemouth & District Rotary Club

- A good sunny site on a slope with decent drainage is ideal
- Approx. 2,500 corms used
- The magic number is 14ft for the wheel diameter so 24 outer teeth to be 1ft square and spokes of wheel 1ft wide
- Use white lining paint to mark out the main design of three concentric circles at 14, 12 and 10ft
- Mark the spokes and teeth
- Remove turf/ground from gaps in wheel to about 4in deep
- Plant corms at 36-40 per sq. ft
- Reinsert turf carefully and firm down very well with feet or roller
- You could plant the alternate way as spokes but at a lower corm density
- Arrange for production of suitable Rotary Purple4Polio sign for when they flower each year
How to plant a Rotary Wheel – Approach 2

Thanks to Peter Berry and Ron Searle of Erith Rotary Club

- Approx. 3,500 corms used for circle and 500 for spokes
- Equipment – spade, string, carving knife, strong stake, 6 small canes, 4ft wooden board
- Set out circles (see sketch)
  - Set the stake in the middle of area to be planted, attach string with a centre loop and tie the knife to the opposite end in two radii of 2’6” and 4’
  - Kneel and cut down in to turf to mark out the two circles. Do inner circle first
  - Use spade to cut through turf fully
  - Cut area between circles in to suitable sections and dig out and set carefully aside in strict order of removal
  - Loosen soil in bottom of trench so about 3-4 inches deep
  - You could use a ‘dibber method’ for planting instead if appropriate considering the people involved and the number of corms to be planted
  - Scatter crocus corms in trench
  - Replace turf carefully in order and stamp down very firmly to flatten
- Set out the spokes (see sketch overlead)
  - Check visual alignment carefully and use smaller canes to set out the 60 degree angles of the spokes
  - Use wooden board and carving knife to mark out 3 trenches at 60 degree separation, 6” wide and stopping short of the 5’ circle by 6” at both ends
  - Remove turf and loosen as before. Scatter crocus corms and replace turf carefully and stamp down very firmly to flatten
- Completion
  - Remove stakes and canes. Rake around any surplus or spilt soil so tidy
  - Arrange for production of suitable Rotary Purple4Polio sign for when they flower each year
- Enjoy the results in Feb/Mar each year and share your photographs and tell the Rotary End Polio Now story
Rotary Wheel Creates Circle - Erith School 2010

String at 4" radius

String at 2 6" radius

In the smaller circle

6" start of edge

Guide

Date: 2010
How to Plant Rotary Wording

Thanks to Frank Hart-Venn and members of Exmouth & District Rotary Club, the District Council’s gardeners, Exmouth in Bloom and RotaKids.

- 4,500 corms used
- Letters about 150cm tall
- Planting channels about 15cm wide
- Follow planting guidelines carefully to minimise ‘theft’ from squirrels and birds
- Using density suggested below the first year display was good with no gaps
- The second year display was superb although a few gaps had appeared from squirrel theft! These gaps will be filled in during the next year’s planting ready for next season’s flowering