

Five ways to bring spring indoors

1. A tall vase of forsythia or other flowering branches. Gather branches with numerous plump buds. Carefully split cut ends, one to four inches, with a sharp knife or pruning shears, place branches in a container of warm water and recut one inch from the base of the stem. Change water every few days.



2. Create a fragrant, miniature woodland in an attractive low container by replanting several purchased potted daffodil, hyacinth or crocus bulbs and adding some attractive twigs— red or chartreuse dogwood, for example, or even pussy willows.

3. Give houseplants a lift by repotting them into one size larger containers you

to literally add a breath of fresh air by increasing the amount of oxygen in the room.

4. Bring tropical foliage plants such as crotons or caladium into your home and recut one inch from the base of the stem. Change water every few days.

5. Start an indoor herb garden. Many varieties will grow happily indoors on a sunny window ledge, including basil, oregano, mint, parsley, sage, thyme, dill and chives. Clip as needed for culinary delight.

Tips from homebasics.ca

—News Canada

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