Hippeastrum, is a flowering plant that belongs to the Amaryllidaceae family. It is native to tropical and subtropical regions of the Americas and is widely cultivated for its large, showy flowers.

Amaryllis, is a plant of the same family native to South Africa.

Hippeastrum is commonly sold as Amaryllis and is a popular choice for indoor or container gardening and is often seen as a potted plant during the holiday season.

The amaryllis plant typically features a single, thick, leafless stalk that arises from a bulb. The bulb itself is large and tunicate, with several layers of dry, papery skin. From the top of the stalk, multiple large trumpet-shaped flowers emerge in



various colours, including shades of red, pink, white, orange, and even striped or multi-coloured varieties. The flowers can reach impressive sizes, measuring up to 8-10 inches (20-25 centimetres) in diameter, and they usually have six petals.

Amaryllis flowers are known for their vibrant colours and striking beauty. They have a velvety texture and often exhibit intricate patterns or gradients on their petals. The blossoms are long-lasting and can stay in bloom for several weeks, providing a delightful display of colour and elegance.

To grow amaryllis, the bulb is typically planted in a well-draining potting mix, leaving the upper one-third of the bulb exposed above the soil surface. It requires bright, indirect light and moderate watering. With proper care and favourable conditions, amaryllis bulbs can produce multiple flowers in a single season. After the flowering period, the plant goes through a period of dormancy before it regrows and blooms again.

Amaryllis is not only a popular ornamental plant but also holds symbolic meanings. It is often associated with strength, determination, and beauty. The flowers make stunning additions to floral arrangements, bouquets, and festive decorations, adding a touch of elegance and colour to any setting.