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Potting up tricks: Toby Buckland's tips on sowing seeds

1 Clean your greenhouse. It's likely to be at its emptiest at this time of year, making the job much easier.

2 Nip and tuck. Deadhead winter bedding plants and early daffodils to make the garden tidier and encourage stronger growth.

3 Get plotting. Draw up plans and order what you need for spring planting of summer-flowering bulbs, bedding plants and herbaceous perennials.

4 Protect patio plants. February can be the coldest month of winter, so keep pots cosy in bubble wrap, hessian or fleece, raise them off the ground and group them close to a south-facing wall.

5 Relocate shrubs. Whether you're redesigning or have a deciduous shrub that's outgrown its current position, now is the time to move it while it is dormant. Water regularly for the first few weeks in its new spot. Evergreens can be moved in late March, when the soil warms up.