Dividing Dahlia Tubers

Step 1:

Dahlia clump ready to be divided.

Step 2:

Remove last year’s “mother” tuber. It’s energy is spent and should be tossed in the compost pile.
Step 3:

Remove any damaged or tubers with broken necks.

Step 4:

Remove any “skinny necked” tubers. They will not store over winter. Only strong tubers should be kept.
Step 5:

The pencil is pointing at the “eyes” of the tuber. Just like a potato has “eyes”, dahlias have eyes too. The viable tubers are the tubers that are attached to last year's stem. The eyes will sprout from the swollen part that is attached to last year's stem. Tubers that do not have eyes, will not sprout.
Step 6:

Use your garden clippers to remove the tuber from the clump.

Step 7:

Continue removing the tubers from the clump.
Step 8:

Divided tubers. Let the cuts dry for 3-5 days in an environment above freezing. Re-plant if it’s time or store for winter.