



Information and Care

Hostas are considered by some to be the number one selling perennial plant. It is truly a spectacular foliage plant with some varieties producing beautiful blooms and nice fragrances.

Like other perennials, every year they become larger and more full. With all the choices in color, texture, size, and patterns on leaves, the hosta has become a favorite of many gardeners to use in shady landscape areas.

DESIGN IDEAS

Hostas can be used alone or they will make more impact when planted in combinations with other plants. Try to vary colors and textures within an area to create interest, harmony, or contrast. Hostas are great when combined with Ferns, Liriope (Lily Turf), Dicentra (Bleeding Heart), Astilbe (False Spiraea). It is also a good idea to use Hosta in areas where you have spring bulbs planted. When the bulbs are going dormant for the summer, the Hostas will just be coming up for their summer show.

CARE

When given proper watering—averaging 1.5 inches per week spread out over seven days—hostas should thrive in zones 4-9 with just a few additional requirements. Morning sun or dappled light promotes good leaf color and flower production. Rich soil that has high organic content and good drainage is essential. It's important to maintain even soil moisture with 2 to 3 inches of an organic mulch, such as pine straw, cocoa bean shells, or shredded leaves, around the plants. Mulching is helpful in cold winter climates where the ground is subject to periodic thawing and freezing, which tends to heave the plants out of the ground. After the first visible heaving, spread an additional 2 - 3 inch layer of mulch over the plants to keep them covered. Remove this top layer when the ground thaws.

You can plant hostas any time during the growing season, up to a month before the first frost. Spring is the pre-

ferred planting season, however, because roots will have sufficient time to become well established before their first winter. Space is also an important requirement: Plant smaller varieties 2 feet apart and larger ones 4 feet apart.

To prepare the soil, add plenty of organic matter or compost, working in these amendments about a foot deep. Dig a generous planting hole so that the roots won't be cramped, and add a complete 10-10-10 or similar slow-release fertilizer. With potted plants, tap the container and slide the root ball out. Loosen the roots before setting the plant in the hole, and make sure that the clump is level with the ground. Gently firm the soil around the plant, and water thoroughly. Carefully remove packing material from bare-root plants and set them at ground level, pressing the soil around the roots.

Once the plants are in the ground, provide plenty of water, and control pests such as slugs, snails, deer, and voles. If you find continued damage, your plants may have foliar nematodes. Detailed information about garden pests and other problems, as well as potential remedies and general growing advice, is available from the American Hosta Society. www.hosta.org.



Hosta Information & Care

POPULAR

Aureomarginata
Blue Angel
Fragrant Bouquet
Francee
Frances Williams
Great Expectations
Gold Standard
Halycon

SLUG RESISTANT

Abiqua Drinking Gourd
Blue Angel
Blue Umbrellas
Frances Williams
Hadspen Blue
Halcyon
June
Krossa Regal

SUN TOLERANT

August Moon
Fortunei Aureomarginata
Fortunei Hyacinthina
Fragrant Bouquet
Francee
Frances Williams
Guacamole
Krossa Regal

FRAGRANT FLOWERS

Fragrant Bouquet
Royal Standard
Guacamole
So Sweet
Honeybells
Stained Glass

HOSTA COLOR LISTING

Blue-leaved Varieties:

Abiqua Drinking Gourd

Blue Angel
Blue Umbrellas
Hadspen Blue
Halcyon
Elegans
Blue Cadet
Krossa Regal
Love Pat

Green-Leaved Varieties:

Honeybells
Royal Standard
Fortunei Hyacinthina
Chartreuse to Gold-Leaved:
June
Sum and Substance
Sun Power
August Moon

Green-Edged Varieties

Gold Standard
Great Expectations
Guacamole
Night Before Christmas
Paul's Glory
Fireworks
Loyalist
Aureonebulosa

White-Edged Varieties:

Albomarginata
Antioch
Francee
Patriot
Regal Splendor
So Sweet
Allen P. MnConnell
Minuteman
Liberty

Yellow-Edged Varieties:

Aureomarginata
Frances Williams
Golden Tierra Sagae
Wide Brim
Wolverine

HOSTA SIZES

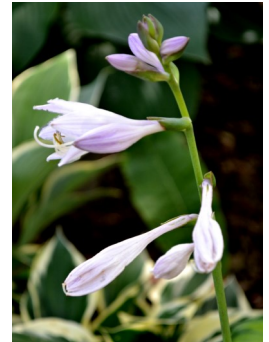
Small Varieties (0-12")

Pandora's Box
Fireworks
Independence
Allen P. McConnell
Fire and Ice
Stillette



Medium Varieties (12-24")

Abiqua Drinking Gourd
Love Pat
Wolverine
Aereomarginata
Loyalist
Frances Williams
Royal Standard
Francee
Honeybells
Night Before Christmas



Great Expectations
Stained Glass
Paul's Glory
Areonebulosa
Halycon
Wide Brim
Minuteman
Huacinthina
August Moon
Revolution



Twilight
Fragrant Bouquet
Patriot
Guacamole
Striptease
June Captain Kirk

Large Varieties (24-36")

Blue Angel
Krossa Regal
Liberty
Sum and Substance
Sagae
Elegans

