

Tips for Success

Subdividing Plants: It is necessary for many plants, including Hostas, to be divided or "split up" every 3-4 years to help maintain plant structure, creating new growth and better sustainability too. Just stick a shovel or trowel down between the clumps and pull apart anywhere. These bareroots will bloom every year in midsummer to late autumn.

How Much Do These Get Cut Back And When?: In early spring, gradually remove any winter cover. It is also best to clean away any old remnants of dried hosta foliage from a previous season. This will help your plants achieve optimal growth.

Hostas: Mainly known for their large and showy foliage, a surprising characteristic of the large-leaved hostas is that most varieties have flower stalks that will produce blooms. In general, removing/cutting back the flower stalks can lead to a sizable difference in your foliage. The production of flower stalks and blooms will redirect energy and nutrients away from the main aspects of your plant, especially your leaves.

What Are Some Nice Companion Plants?: Peonies, digitalis, heuchera, delphinium, scabiosa, campanula, bachelor's buttons, dianthus, hardy gloxinia and hardy geranium make nice companions.

Where Are They Best Planted?: Hostas love the shade and will bring a certain lushness under trees, along the shady side of your home, in borders, or as accents around the garden. If you are worried about slugs, planting them in partial sun should help minimize the problem.



Roberta's Gardens PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



GENERAL GROWING GUIDE

Images shown may not be representative of your sets specific colors.

Hosta
Plantain Lily

*Thank You
for bringing us into
your home*

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. If you have any questions regarding your order please call us at **1-800-428-9726** during the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm EST.

You can email questions to us at: plantquestions@robertasinc.com.

If your bulbs, cuttings, etc. do not sprout, or your plant dies within one year from the date of shipment, we will send you a replacement free of charge. We cannot accept responsibility for losses due to extreme weather or neglect. Simply call us at the above toll free number or fill out the plant replacement form on our website at RobertasUniqueGardens.com.

Roberta's will replace it with a similar or comparable plant at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will ship the following year.

Perennials

Roberta's Unique Gardens

P.O. Box 368, Waldron, IN 46182

Monday – Friday 8:30^{AM} – 4:30^{PM} EST

RobertasUniqueGardens.com

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Quick Reference

 **Plant Type:** Perennial

 **Light/Sun:** Partial Sun to Partial Shade

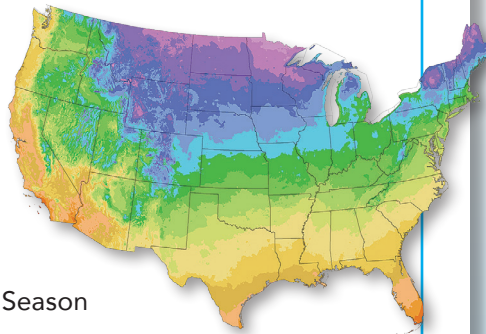
 **Mature Height:** 8-40"
(Varies by Variety)

 **Mature Spread:** 12-72"
(Varies by Variety)

 **Bloom Time:** Midsummer, by 2nd Season

 **USDA Hardiness Zones:** 3 to 10

9a to 11 7a 6a 5a
8a to 8b 6b 5bs to 5bn 3a to 4b
7b



Plant Caretaking

Upon Arrival: Please take the bareroots out of the plastic bag and box immediately. Remove any shipping materials from around the plants.

Planting Depth & Spacing: Plant bareroots twice as deep as they are tall. For example, a bareroots that is 3 inches tall should be planted 6 inches deep. Plant the clumps with the roots facing downward. Cover the top with an inch or two of soil and pack firmly around the sides. Space bareroots the distance of the mature spread as shown in the Quick Reference Planting Guide.

Potted Plants: Bareroots will often perform better in-ground rather than containers but if using pots make sure your container has holes to allow excess water to drain.

Soil Preparation: Hostas need a soil type/planting site that drains decently. Amend heavy soils with a potting mix to encourage adequate drainage.

Watering: Water thoroughly upon planting. They need at least one inch of rainfall per week. If rain does not occur, water once or twice per week. Once established they are relatively drought tolerant.

Fertilizer: Use Roberta's Bounty a couple weeks after planting, when you've seen them begin to sprout some foliage. Then again fertilize once or twice a month all summer long.

Blooming: The sprays of nodding, funnel-shaped, often fragrant flowers occur in midsummer. They are borne high above their foliage. Colors range from blue to lavender to lilac to white. The sprays of nodding, funnel-shaped, often fragrant flowers occur in midsummer through late autumn.

Pruning: Some gradual and healthy pruning during the growing season can help your plant significantly. If any foliage looks dead or damaged, you can remove by pruning the leaves from the base where it emanates from the main plant. The flower and flower stalk pruning can vary, depending on whether you would like to have/maintain a bloom or not. Cut and remove the flower stalk at the base of the plant, before it begins to bloom if you want to completely divert all energy to the plant (wanting no blooms) for the largest presentation of foliage. If you desire a bloom, wait till the flower has completely wilted, and then prune the entire flower stalk at the base.

Winter Dormancy: In the autumn, you may cut off any old growth. Otherwise, pull away from old-growth in the following spring by hand. They are winter hardy to a negative 30 degrees below zero with just a little autumn mulching.

Planting Steps

Step 1 Remove the plastic bag from around the bareroots and discard any unattached pieces of old roots that may have come loose. If necessary, you may store roots for 3 weeks in a cool, dry place like your refrigerator.

Step 2 Hostas prefer a soil that drains well year-round. When choosing your garden location, it is helpful to amend heavy soils with a potting mix. Plant in the garden or containers when evening temperatures average between 40-50F and you have cleared the threat of any frost. Choose a place in the garden or a container and dig a hole that is twice as deep as the root ball.

Step 3 These clumps have roots radiating from a central point or crown. Place them in the hole and position the roots facing downward and cover with an inch or two of soil and pack soil firmly around the root.

Step 4 Water roots thoroughly right after planting. Continue to water regularly through the summer. Hostas do not like soggy conditions, so be careful to water too excessively. Typically watering every 10-14 days is sufficient when you are receiving regular rainfalls through the week. When you do water, provide a deep, thorough watering each time.

Step 5 Make sure your new plants do not dry out for prolonged periods of time. Young plants need their roots to stay moist but not soggy while getting established. This may mean watering your plants every few days, and even more often for plants in containers or during periods of drought. You may add a 1-2" inch layer of mulch or compost on top to help keep moisture in.

