

Tips for Success

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.

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.

First Year Maintenance: For perennials, the first year (or sometimes two) will require additional maintenance. During the first season of growth, even if the plant is known to be drought-tolerant, it is very important to water your plants on a regular basis, meaning up to 3-4 times per week. When plants are in their infancy stage, they need to be watered by their caretaker until they've had a chance to build a strong enough root system to subsist on their own. If you are experiencing severe heat, drought like conditions, or your plants appear consistently droopy, you may need to water your plants almost every day.

Subdividing Plants: You may want to subdivide or split your hostas after 3-4 years to help maintain vigor and plant structure. Just stick a shovel or trowel down between the clumps and pull apart anywhere. They love it.

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

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. If you have any questions regarding your order please call us at **1-765-525-4065** during the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm EST.

You can email questions to us at: customerservice@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 8:30AM - 4:30PM EST


RobertasUniqueGardens.com


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Quick Reference

 **Plant Type** Perennial

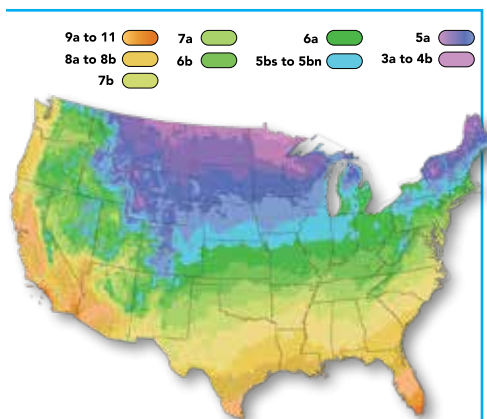
 **Light/Sun** Partial Sun to Partial Shade

 **Mature Height**
Medium: 1-2' (Varies by Variety)
Large: 2.5 -3' (Varies by Variety)

 **Mature Spread**
Medium 2-3' (Varies by Variety)
Large: 5-6' (Varies by Variety)

 **Bloom Time** Midsummer
(Second Season)

 **USDA Hardiness Zones** 3 to 10



Plant Caretaking

Upon Arrival: Please vent the plastic bag by making holes in it to allow air to the bareroots and store away in a cool, dark location until they can be planted. If you have potted plants, then remove them and site them in a shady, warm area until you can replant.

Planting Depth & Spacing: Plant bareroots so that the sprout is barely just above the soil line. Burying the root too deep can cause crown rot. Dig a deep enough hole so that the entire plant easily fits into the hole and the top of the soil line of your plant is flush with the top of the soil in the hole you have dug. It is important that the soil line of your plant does not protrude above the soil line in the ground or container. 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. Use a 20-24" diameter pot for one hosta.

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 and then once or twice a month all summer long.

Pet Considerations: Ensure your pets do not consume plants. Some plants are toxic to pets. Do your diligence to protect your pet.

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.

Planting Steps

Step 1 Please take the bareroots out of the plastic bag and box immediately, or if you have potted plants, then remove any shipping material from around the plants.

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.

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 or plants 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.

