



Hosta Information – The Premier Garden Plant

Hosta – (Plantain Lily)- long lived, low maintenance plant grown primarily for its foliage. Bell-shaped flowers on strong stalks are held above the foliage. Hosta can be used as a specimen plant or massed as a groundcover. Hostas come in a variety of sizes, color combinations and shapes. They prefer moist, well-drained soil, but tolerate just about anything. Gold leaf varieties require half day sun to develop their color. Most varieties of hosta will burn in full sun. Morning sun is preferred. On some hosta, the individual characteristics are often not evident until they reach maturity.

Size - Height	<u>(not including the flower stalk)</u>
Mini -	Up to 6"
Small -	7" to 10"
Medium -	11" to 18"
Large -	19" to 28"
Extra Large -	Over 28"

Leaf Color

- Blue** Sensitive to strong sunlight – burns easily. Blue hostas do require protection from the sun. The leaves have a waxy coating, and in full, hot sun, this waxy coating melts, making the leaf appear green and subjects it to sunburn. Do not plant in full sun.
- Gold** Performs best with ½ day sun. Yellow varieties with thicker leaves do show more sun tolerance.
- Green** Some varieties show good sun tolerance.
- Variogated** Exceptional when combined with solid colors. Some varieties with white in their leaves will sunburn easily.

Sun Tolerant Hosta

These varieties have shown good sun tolerance. Ideal growing conditions for most hosta is to have morning sun and high filtered afternoon shade. However, some hosta will grow fine in full sun if given adequate moisture to keep them from drying out. Water profusely and keep them heavily mulched. The leaves of hosta plants are usually much larger than other plants – thereby releasing more moisture as a result. Full morning sun is much better than full afternoon sun.

Hostas that are thick-leaved, yellow leaves or fragrant, typically tolerate sun conditions better than others. There are, however, always exceptions. If you have a different variety that is loving the sun – great. In very hot and dry areas – all hosta should be planted in some shade. If planted in really hot and dry conditions, hosta can go dormant in the summer. Too much sun will result in burned leaves, starting on the outside of the leaves and progressing inward.

All hosta need at least some sun to photosynthesize. Some hosta may live in full shade, but they will not thrive and mature.

Slug Tolerant Hosta

These varieties have shown good resistance to damage from slugs, typically larger plants and thicker foliage are less susceptible to slugs.

Fragrant Hosta

These varieties have flowers that are fragrant. An added bonus for some hosta flowers – they will attract butterflies!

Hosta of the Year

With the increasing number of hosta cultivars being introduced each year, it is increasingly difficult for nursery owners and gardeners to choose just the right hosta for their sales areas and gardens. To this end, the American Hosta Growers Association established the AHGA Hosta of the Year in 1996. Award winners are hosta that are good garden plants in all regions of the country, are widely available and in sufficient supply and retail for about \$15 in the year of selection.

Hosta of the Year Summary

1996	So Sweet
1997	Patriot
1998	Fragrant Bouquet
1999	Paul's Glory
2000	Sagae
2001	June
2002	Guacamole
2003	Regal Splendor
2004	Sum & Substance
2005	Strip Tease
2006	Stained Glass
2007	Paradigm
2008	Blue Mouse Ears
2009	Earth Angel
2010	First Frost
2011	Praying Hands
2012	Liberty
2013	Rainforest Sunrise
2014	Abiqua Drinking Gourd
2015	Victory
2016	Curly Fries
2017	Brother Stefan
2018	World Cup
2019	Lakeside Paisley Print
2020	Dancing Queen
2021	Rainbow's End
2022	Island Breeze

Hosta Variety	Size	Sun	Slug	Fragrant
Abiqua Drinking Gourd	M		X	
Age of Gold	L	X	X	
Albo-marginata undulata	M	X		
Amazone	L	X		
Ann Kulpa	L		X	
Atlantis	XL			
August Moon	M	X	X	
montana Aurea-marginata	L	X		
Autumn Frost	M		X	
Avacado Toast	S			
Big Daddy	L		X	
Blue Angel	XL	X	X	
Blue Cadet	M		X	
Blue Hawaii	XL	X		X
Blue Mammoth	XL	X	X	
Blue Mouse Ears	S	X	X	
Bluebird ofHappiness	M			
Brother Stephan	L	X		
Bud Lite	M			
Cathedral Windows	L			X
Catherine	M		X	
Coast to Coast	XL	X	X	
Cool as a Cucumber				
Dancing Darling	M			
Dancing Queen	M	X		
Dancing with Dragons	M			
Designer Genes	M			
Diamond Lake	L		X	
Diamonds are Forever	S			
Earth Angel	XL		X	
Elegans (sieboldiana)	L	X	X	
Emerald Tiara	M			
Empress Wu	XL		X	
Fantabulous	M			

Fire and Ice	L			
Fire Island	M			
First Dance	L	X		
First Frost	M	X	X	
Hosta Variety	Size	Sun	Slug	Fragrant
Forbidden Fruit	M	X	X	
Francee	M	X		
Frances Williams	L		X	X
Frost Giant	XL			
Frozen Margarita	L	X		X
George Smith	L		X	
Ginko Craig	S			
Great Expectations	L		X	
Great White Whale	XL			
Green Thumb	Mini			
Guacamole	L	X		X
Guardian Angel	L		X	X
Hadspen Blue	M	X	X	
Halcyon	M	X	X	
Happy Dayz	M			
Hide and Seek	Mini			
High Society	S	X	X	
Hudson Bay	L		X	
Humpback Whale	XL		X	
Invincible	L			X
Island Breeze	M	X		
June	M	X	X	
Krossa Regal	XL	X	X	
Lakeside Paisley Print	S		X	
Lancifolia Lavender	M			
Liberty	L		X	
Love Pat	M		X	
Loyalist	S	X	X	
Mini-Mix	Mini			
Minuteman	M	X	X	
One Last Dance	M	X		
Pandora's Box	Mini			
Paradigm	L	X		

Party Streamers	M			
Patriot	M	X	X	
Paul's Glory	L	X	X	
Pilgrim	S			X
Pineapple Upside Down Cake	L			
Praying Hands	M	X	X	
Rainbow's End	S		X	
Hosta Variety	Size	Sun	Slug	Fragrant
Rainforest Sunrise	S	X	X	
Raspberry Sundae	S			
Regal Splendor	XL	X		
Riverboat Queen	XL			
Rowan My Boat	M			
Royal Crest	L	X		X
Royal Standard	L	X		X
Royal Wedding	M			X
Sagee	L	X	X	
School Mouse	Mini			
Snow Cap	L			
St. Elmos Fire	M			
Striptese	L	X		X
Sugar Cookie	M			
Sugar Plum	M		X	
Sum and Substance	XL	X	X	
Tears in Heaven	M			
Touch of Class	M	X	X	
Twin Cities	XL		X	
Victory	XL	X	X	
Vulcan	L			
Waterslide	M		X	
Wheee!	M		X	
Wide Brim	M			
Wiggles & Squiggles	S			
Wrinkle in Time	S			
Wu-La-La	L			
Yellow Polka Dot Bikini	Mini			