



ARTICLE ON TIPS FOR GROWING HOSTAS.



These are some frequent questions that growers ask regarding Hostas. Carley Borcharding, member of Grant County Master Gardeners created the article that may be of interest for new growers of Hosta plant.

How to Retain Their Color?

Blue leaved Hostas retain more of the blue color if grown in all to mostly shade.
Example: Hycycon, Krossa Regal



Yellowed leaved Hostas tolerate more sun- up to 50% but prefer morning sun.
Example: Sun Power, August Moon

Do Hostas Have a Fragrance?

White blooming Hostas tend to have produce fragrant blossoms, and need 5-6 hours of sun preferably morning and early afternoon.
Example: Fragrant Bouquet, Guacamole

Are There Different Growth Patterns?

Large leaf Hostas are slow growers taking 3-5 and sometimes Seven years to reach maturity.
Elegan is one of the large leaf varieties that might mature in 3 yrs.
Ex Sum and Substance

When Should I Divide?

When the center of a clump of Hostas has a "hole" [where no Hostas are growing], it is time to dig it up and divide it. Hostas can be divided anytime during the growing season, but less damage is done to the foliage if done in early spring before the leaves unfurl. Remove the entire plant and use a sharp shovel or knife to divide.

Hostas are considered the "hospitality" plant because they multiply easily, and can be divided to be given to friends and family.

What are the Different Sizes of Hostas?

Hostas come in many sizes: giant [Example: Sum and Substance], both leaf and size of mound; Med. leaf size with large mound [Honeybells]; small leaf size with med size mound [Golden Tiara]; Dwarf size leaf and small mound [Ground Master]
Mini sized leaf and mini mound [Teeny Weenie Bikini].

There are some Hostas with cupped leaves [Brim Cup] the leaf edges curl up. Some Hostas form mounds [Guacomoli] and some are more upright called "vased" [Krossa Regal]

How to Maintain Hostas?

Hostas prefer cultivate [loose] soil with organic material, that will hold moisture but drains well. Cover Hostas with mulch for the winter to prevent heaving. I recommend straw or/and ground leaves.