

Hostas, occasionally called “plantain lilies” or “funkia”, are among the best-loved shade plants. Hostas are grown primarily for their striking heart-shaped foliage in shades of blue, green, chartreuse, or variegated with cream and white. Spikes of flowers, usually lavender but sometimes white or light blue, add a vertical accent in mid to late summer. Hummingbirds and bees are attracted to the flowers. Some varieties have fragrant flowers; these are noted in our list below.

Hostas like a soil rich in organic matter and plenty of summer water; they appreciate a dose of slow-release flower food (such as Dr. Earth or E.B. Stone Rose and Flower Food) once a year in spring when you see the new growth. Slugs like hostas; bait regularly to prevent damage. Hostas with heavy, corrugated foliage are less attractive to slugs; these ones are listed as slug resistant.

All hostas like partial to full shade; a few will take more sun (generally up to $\frac{3}{4}$ sun—not hot afternoon sun). The more sun-tolerant ones are noted as well.

Please note that hostas can take several years for foliage to attain adult characteristics (color, variegation, texture). The immature hosta in a pot may look different from the variety description.

Hosta of the Year Winners are indicated by HY in parentheses after the name. These are hostas that are striking and that perform well across the country. Great Plant Picks are particularly fine performers in the Puget Sound region; they are indicated by GPP after the name.

Name	Foliage	Flower	Size	Frag.	Sun Res.	Slug Res.
Abiqua Drinking Gourd (HY)	Frosty blue; cupped and puckered	Lavender	18-24"			✓
Alakazam	Green/yellow edge, narrow	Lavender	7"			
Albo marginata	Green / white edge	Lavender	12-24"			
August Moon (GPP)	Chartreuse to gold, crinkled	Lavender	24"		✓	✓
Aureomarginata	Green/gold edge	Lavender	18-24"		✓	
Big Mama	Blue-gray, large, puckered	White	30-40"			
Blue Angel (GPP)	Blue-gray, large	White	30-34"		✓	
Blue Mouse Ears (HY, GPP)	Small, round, fuzzy blue	Lavender	7"		✓	✓
Bressingham Blue	Powdery blue	White	24"			
Brim Cup	Green/white margins; cupped & corrugated	Light blue to white	10-15"			
Brother Stefan (HY)	Cupped corrugated leaves; yellow splashed w/green	Cream	22"		✓	
Buckshaw Blue	Blue-green, corrugated	Near white	12-18"			
Christmas Tree	Green/white edge	Lavender	18-28"			✓
City Lights	Chartreuse to gold	Near white	23-27"		✓	✓
Curly Fries (HY)	Narrow, wavy, light green; almost white in ½ sun	Lavender	11"			
Dream Weaver	White/3" teal edge	Near white	24-30"			✓
Earth Angel (HY, GPP)	Giant, blue-green w/creamy edge	Lavender	28-32"		✓	✓
Elegans (GPP)	Steel blue, corrugated	White	20"		✓	✓
Elvis Lives	Blue, wavy edges	Lavender	10-18"			
Fire & Ice	White/streaky grn edge	Lavender	20-24"		✓	✓
Fire Island	Bright yellow with red petioles, aging chartreuse	Lavender	15"			

Name	Foliage	Flower	Size	Frag.	Sun Res.	Slug Res.
First Frost (HY)	Blue green/cream edge	Lavender	16-20"		✓	✓
Fragrant Blue (GPP)	Blue green, heart-shaped	Near white	18-20"	✓	✓	
Fragrant Bouquet (HY, GPP)	Chartreuse/cream edge	Near white	18-24"	✓	✓	
Francee (GPP)	Green/white edge	Lavender	12-24"		✓	
Frances Williams	Blue/gold edge	White	24-32"			✓
Gold Standard (GPP)	Gold/green edge	Lavender	18-24"		✓	
Golden Tiara	Green w/cream and lime	Lavender	12"		✓	
Great Expectations	Cream to gold/blue edge	White	24"			✓
Guacamole (HY, GPP)	Chartreuse/green edge	Whitish	18-20"	✓	✓	
Hadspen Blue	Dark blue, cupped	Lavender	12-18"		✓	✓
Halcyon (GPP)	Deep blue, heavy	Lavender	20"		✓	✓
Honeybells	Light green	White	18-24"	✓	✓	
Hyacinthina	Frosty gray green/cream edge	Lavender	16-20"		✓	
June (HY)	Yellow center/blue edge	Lavender	12-16"		✓	✓
June Fever	Yellow center/thin blue edge	Lavender	12-16"		✓	✓
Kabitan	Wavy gold/thin green edge	Pale purple	10"			
Krossa Cream Edge	Green/ cream edge	Purple	10"			
Krossa Regal (GPP)	Powder blue	Lavender	30"		✓	✓
Lakeside Downsized	Yellow, rippled, white edge	Purple	6"			
Lancifolia	Glossy green, long, narrow	Lavender	12"		✓	
Liberty (HY)	Green/yellow edge	Lavender	16-18"		✓	✓
Loyalist (GPP)	White/green edge	Lavender	24"			✓
Minuteman (GPP)	Green/bright white edge	Lavender	24"		✓	✓
Mississippi Delta	Blue-green, large	White	32"			✓
Moonstruck	White/blue-green edge	Lavender	12-16"			
Munchkin Fire	Bright yellow, narrow	Lavender	7"			
Northern Exposure	Blue-green/cream edge	White	36"			
Orange Star	Gold center tinged orange if grown in sun; green edge	Lavender	12"		✓	✓

Name	Foliage	Flower	Size	Frag.	Sun Res.	Slug Res.
Paradigm (HY)	Thick, gold/blue-green edge	Near white	22"		✓	✓
Patriot (HY, GPP)	Green/white edge	Lavender	24"		✓	
Paul's Glory (HY, GPP)	Gold/ blue-green edge	Lavender	18-28"		✓	✓
Popcorn	Yellow/ green edge aging to white/ green edge	Lavender	12"			
Praying Hands (HY, GPP)	Upright folded leaves, green w/gold edge	Lavender	15"		✓	✓
Rainforest Sunrise (HY)	Cupped corrugated leaves, gold edged dark green	Lavender	8"			✓
Royal Standard	Green, corrugated	White	22-26"	✓	✓	
Rubies and Ruffles	Green/rippled white edges; red stems	Purple	15"			
Sage (HY, GPP)	Grey green/cream	Lavender	31-38"		✓	
Samual Blue	Blue, corrugated	Lavender	24"			✓
Sea Thunder	Green, white or cream streaks	Lavender	14-16"			
Shade Fanfare	Light green/ cream edge	Lavender	18-28"		✓	
So Sweet (HY, GPP)	Dk green/yellow to white edge	Near white	16-28"	✓	✓	
Spilt Milk	Blue green "splashed" white	White	24"			✓
St. Elmo's Fire	Green/cream edge, red stems, new leaves yellow	Lavender	16"			
Stained Glass (HY)	Big gold/green edge	Lavender	16-20"		✓	
Sum & Substance (HY, GPP)	Chartreuse-yellow, huge	Lavender	36-60"		✓	✓
Touch of Class	Blue-green, splashed w/gold	Lavender	12"		✓	✓
Venus	Bright green	White	18-24"	✓	✓	
Victory (HY)	Green edged pale yellow	Lavender	22"		✓	
Whirlwind	Ivory to yellow / edged in dark green	Lavender	18-20"		✓	✓
Wide Brim	Blue/cream edge	Lavender	18-24"		✓	
World Cup (HY)	Wavy, cupped, gold	Pale purple	19"			