Great Expectations Hosta

Hosta 'Great Expectations'



Great Expectations Hosta foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 24 inches

Flower Height: 3 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Spacing: 3 feet

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 2

Other Names: Plantain Lily, Funkia

Description:

A beautiful variety featuring neat mounds of large, blue-green foliage with chartreuse centers and margins; pale lavender flowers appear on tall scapes during the summer months; adds texture, color and contrast to shaded beds, borders and containers

Ornamental Features

Great Expectations Hosta features dainty spikes of lavender bell-shaped flowers rising above the foliage in mid summer. Its attractive large textured heart-shaped leaves remain bluish-green in color with showy chartreuse variegation throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Great Expectations Hosta is a dense herbaceous perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other garden plants with finer foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects

Great Expectations Hosta is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover

Planting & Growing

Great Expectations Hosta will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity extending to 3 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 4 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 3 feet apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant does best in partial shade to shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.