Barbara May Hosta

Hosta 'Barbara May'



Barbara May Hosta foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 10 inches

Flower Height: 18 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 20 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 2

Other Names: Plantain Lily, Funkia

Description:

A wonderful vigorous variety featuring dense mounds of blue-green, oval, ruffled leaves; pale lavender flowers appear in mid-summer; a perfect way to add texture, contrast and color to shaded beds, borders and containers; easy to grow and low maintenance

Ornamental Features

Barbara May Hosta features dainty spikes of lavender tubular flowers rising above the foliage from early to mid summer. Its attractive textured oval leaves remain blue in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Barbara May Hosta is a dense herbaceous perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

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

Barbara May Hosta is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover

Planting & Growing

Barbara May Hosta will grow to be about 10 inches tall at maturity extending to 18 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 20 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. 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 full shade. Keep it well away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. 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.