



Hollyhock Planting Guide

About Hollyhocks

A garden classic, popularly found in English and cottage-style landscapes, Hollyhocks offer frilly, cup-shaped flowers that grow in a wide variety of colors such as blue, pink, purple, red, white, yellow, and even black! The tall, spiked foliage is covered with blooms from top to bottom.

When to Plant

Direct sow approximately one week before the threat of frost has passed. Hollyhocks can also be sown indoors about 9 weeks before your final frost and transferred outdoors about 2-3 weeks after the final frost has passed.

Where to Plant

Plant hollyhocks in moist, rich, and well-draining soil that gets full sun exposure - though they can tolerate partial shade. One of the significant causes of hollyhock failure is planting in soil that is too dry.

How to Plant

Soak your seeds beforehand in warm water for approximately 12 hours. Direct sow outdoors onto the surface of the soil and compress firmly, but do not cover. Hollyhocks require sunlight to germinate. If starting indoors, use tall, individual pots to transplant, as Hollyhocks have long taproots.

Caring for Hollyhocks

Hollyhocks are a short-lived perennial, tending to last about 2-3 years. This lifespan can be extended by removing flowers as soon as they fade. In non-tropical climates, you can cut your hollyhocks down and mulch in order to give them longer life as well. Hollyhocks can also be susceptible to rust, which will usually infect lower-growing leaves, but can spread upwards. Prevent rust by watering from below, and promoting good air circulation between your hollyhocks.