



Elephant Ear Planting Guide

About Elephant Ears

Fast and easy to grow, Elephant ears won't go unnoticed in your garden. Prized for their dramatic foliage, the leaves can reach up to 2 feet across!

When to Plant

Plant when soil heats up to 65 F in the spring, after any danger of frost has passed.

Where to Plant

Make sure to give your elephant ears plenty of room. An adult elephant ear plant will need at least 3 feet of space for proper growth. Place in a relatively shady area or filtered sun and provide rich, well-draining soil.

How to Plant

Dig a hole about 3-4 times the size of the tuber. The plant should be about 1-2 inches below ground level when planted.

Set the tuber in the hole, pointed side up, and cover with soil. Water the area deeply. After watering, about 1-2 inches of soil should cover the tuber. It's good to mark the spot where the tuber was planted, as it will take a few weeks for the plant to emerge.

Caring for Elephant Ears

Water frequently—elephant ears need consistent moisture throughout the summer, and should not be left to go dry. Droopy leaves will give enough early warning for recovery if watered within a day. They can also benefit from an application of liquid fertilizer every 2-3 weeks.

Zones 7 and below should dig up tubers when the weather turns cold. To store, trim off top growth, leaving no more than 1 inch of leafy growth on the tuber. Let the tubers sit in open air for 2-3 days to dry. Once dry, store in a cool, dry place. Once spring arrives, replant the tubers when it starts to warm up.

Elephant Ears are patient growers, especially in cooler zones. They can take several years to reach maturity in some areas.