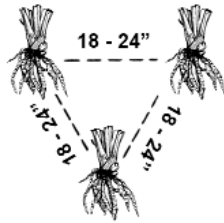


Care Sheet for Daylily (Hemerocallis)

Daylilies are among the easiest of perennials to grow and can last a lifetime if occasionally divided and transplanted. These resilient plants will grow and bloom in any kind of soil, though they will achieve their best if given the proper care.

Before planting, soak shipped roots in a weak solution of fertilizer in water for a few hours or overnight. Daylilies should be planted in a moderately well drained location. Select an area with full sun, although they will tolerate partial shade. The soil should be prepared with deep cultivation (one to two feet) adding peat moss, compost or leaf mold.

After the soil is ready, dig a hole that is slightly wider than the root mass. Mound soil in the center of the hole and place plant on the mound. Fill in the hole so that the crown is slightly lower than the surrounding soil surface and tamp down firmly. Water thoroughly. Mulching is recommended when planting in late fall.



In a group or border, daylilies should be spaced 18" to 24" apart as per the diagram. Planted alone they make great specimen plants.

For the best results, and for abundant blossoms the following year, fertilizer should be applied about three weeks after the peak blooming period. A well-balanced fertilizer, applied lightly, is best.

Daylilies are practically disease and pest free. Good siting, which encourages vigorous growth, is the best prevention. However, it may be necessary to watch for the occasional problem with thrips, aphids or spider mites. It is important to remove any affected parts of the plant from the garden area and dispose of them. If any problem persists, insecticidal soap or a pesticide may be used. These are available from better garden centers and nurseries in your area. Always follow manufacturer's directions.

Daylilies appreciate summer water. An inch a week would be ideal, though they will tolerate much less. Deadheading spent flowers will encourage more blooms. Daylilies are also moisture tolerant, making them an excellent problem solver for hard-to-landscape areas.



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