

How to Grow Foxglove



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Foxglove are showy, bell-shaped wildflowers native to the woods of northern Europe. Foxglove grow 2 - 5 feet tall and produce robust pink, purple, red, white and yellow blossoms. If you have trouble keeping flowers safe from deer in your yard, plant foxglove - it contains small amounts of a toxic chemical, making it deer resistant. If you want to learn how to grow this gorgeous flower, keep reading.



Part 1 of 2: Preparing to Plant

Starting from seed, use 4-inch seed trays with seed compost. Lightly press the seeds into the compost. Do not cover the seeds with more compost once they are sown, since they require light to germinate. Plan to plant the seedlings when they are a few inches tall.

Find a good place to plant foxglove. Foxglove prefer full sun or light shade. Find a place that isn't too windy and gets plenty of sun for most of the day. They should be protected from wind as they are easily buffeted about and can change their growth shape if assaulted by wind too frequently. If your climate is very hot, semi-shade is acceptable.

Look for suitable soil. Foxglove likes soil that is deep, moist, and acidic. Look for a spot that drains well, rather than holding too much water. If you see puddles in an area after a heavy rain, it probably doesn't drain well enough to be a good home for foxglove.



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Prepare the planting site. Use a garden rake or hoe to loosen the soil and rake in compost to a depth of about a foot. This will make sure the soil is suitably rich and ready for the foxglove to take root.

- You can use fertilizer instead of compost, but be sure to use a light application. Too much fertilizer will harm the foxglove.

Dig holes spaced 2 to 4 feet apart. They should be twice as wide as the root balls of the seedlings, and deep enough so that you can fit the entire rootball underground.

Plant the foxglove. Set the root balls into the holes and lightly pat soil around the bases of the stems. Water the area thoroughly.

