

Growing GUIDE



ASCLEPIAS



PLANTING DEPTH

Above the Crown



WATER QUANTITY

Moderate



SUN QUANTITY

Full to Partial Sun



PLANTING PROXIMITY

12-18" Apart



BLOOM SEASON

Summer to Fall



HARDINESS ZONES

Zones 3-9

ASCLEPIAS PLANTING GUIDE

Carefree and long-lived, Asclepias produce gorgeous clusters of blooms from early summer through early fall that are highly resistant to deer and remarkably drought tolerant. Also known as Butterfly Weed, these hard-to-find plants are the only ones monarch butterflies will lay their eggs on, making them essential in supporting monarch populations. Plant Asclepias for a garden bustling with happy butterflies and hummingbirds! Oh, and don't worry—we'll share all of our best-kept secrets for growing these gorgeous plants in this guide.



SUCCESS TIPS

- Bear in mind that the planting hole should be roughly twice as wide as the starter plant and deep enough to accommodate the full root.
- Transplant only if absolutely necessary, as these plants prefer to be left undisturbed, and their long, strong roots make transplantation difficult. If you must dig up the plant, be sure to dig deep as some varieties of Asclepias form long taproots.
- Expect butterflies, bees, and other happy pollinators to visit the flowers in droves.
- Avoid fertilizing your Butterfly Weed, as doing so could actually harm the plants.



WHERE TO PLANT

Asclepias are incredibly easy to grow when given plenty of sunlight. They'll actually thrive in various soil types, such as poor, dry, sandy, or gravelly, as long as they can soak up the rays! These plants generally fancy a neutral to slightly acidic pH, but when it comes to these beauties, there's really no need to worry.

WHEN TO PLANT

For the best flowering results, plant your starter plants in the spring or fall. While they may not perform the first year, you can expect colorful blossoms from early summer through early fall in subsequent seasons.

HOW TO PLANT

- **Find a spot** for your Asclepias where they'll receive plenty of sunshine.
- **Dig holes 12 to 18" apart** and large enough to accommodate the roots without bending or breaking them.
- **Work the soil around the roots** as you tuck the plant down, with no more than 1" of soil covering the crown.
- **Water thoroughly after planting** to settle the soil around the roots.

HOW TO GROW

- **Water your Asclepias regularly** during active growth to keep the soil moist, only tapering off once they become more established.
- **Cut back the foliage and stalks** to ground level once they start to wither and die back.
- **Mulch around the plant** if you're gardening in a particularly cold climate, removing when temperatures start to rise in the spring.



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