

Dahlia

Dahlia pinnata

QUICK FACTS

USDA ZONES

8–11

SUNLIGHT

Full Sun

BLOOM

Summer

HEIGHT

1–6 ft

DEER

Vulnerable

POLLINATORS

Yes

AT A GLANCE

Dahlias are winter-hardy only in USDA zones 8-10. In zones 3-7 -- most of the U.S. -- you must lift the tubers after the first frost and store them through winter, or buy fresh tubers each spring and treat the plants as annuals. Get the storage conditions right and you'll have better tubers each year. Skip storage and lose them to frost. That's the whole decision.

PLANTING CHECKLIST

- Match site to sun requirements above before buying
- Test soil drainage — dig a 12" hole, fill with water, time it (should drain in 1–2 hrs)
- Dig hole 2x wider than rootball, same depth
- Backfill with native soil — do NOT amend the planting hole
- Water deeply at planting and weekly for first 3 weeks
- Mulch 2" deep, keep mulch 2" away from trunk/stems

FULL GUIDE WITH SOURCES

<https://outdoorplantcare.com/plants/dahlia-care/>