

Foxglove

Digitalis purpurea

QUICK FACTS

USDA ZONES

4–8

SUNLIGHT

Part Shade

BLOOM

Summer

HEIGHT

3–5 ft

DEER

Resistant

POLLINATORS

Yes

AT A GLANCE

Foxglove is a biennial -- it grows vegetatively the first year, flowers and sets seed in the second year, then dies. The way to maintain foxgloves long-term is to allow self-seeding, which creates a continuous cycle of first-year and second-year plants. Cut flower spikes after bloom only if you want to control spread; leave them if you want self-seeding. The plant is genuinely toxic -- all parts -- and that fact belongs at the top of any foxglove article.

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/foxglove-care/>