

alocasia

Alocasia, or Elephant Ears are fun to grow. Many have huge leaves in a broad range of colors including black, purple, grey, shades of green, and even variegated.



Indoors, Alocasia require bright light. Plant in sun or shade during the growing season depending on the variety.



This Aroid likes a well-drained, all-purpose potting soil with added bark and perlite. Combine 1 part all-purpose potting soil, 1 part orchid bark, 1 part perlite, 1/2 part charcoal, 1/2 part worm castings.



If indoors, allow the top inch of soil to dry between waterings. Outdoors water needs will vary depending on the amount of sun received.



Outdoors, alocasia are heavy feeders. Use a slow release fertilizer or fertilize each time you water. Indoors, fertilize during active growth.



If you plan to overwinter, cut foliage back after first frost, dig up tubers, remove soil and allow to dry overnight. Store in a cool (55-60 degrees F), dry location in vermiculite, perlite, or peat moss until early spring when it is time to plant.



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