

## How I Force Hostas (any plant) for Hosta College by Kay Anderson

1. Pot up your plant using bark mix potting soil in September or early October.
2. Put plant in a semi-shady spot (if weather is cool, can go in a sunnier spot) while it adjusts to its new pot of soil. Water as needed.
3. Let the plant die back naturally and go dormant. Remove leaves and check for slugs and pill bugs.
4. After a couple of frosts or continued cold weather, bring into an UNHEATED basement, garage or storage shed. Do not water. Most hostas must have at least a 6 week dormancy period.
5. I bring mine in to warm and break dormancy about Jan 15. Any place that is above 65 degrees will work. Water sparingly if plant is extremely dry. When the first pips are about one inch tall, move to a south, east, or west window. You may also put your plant(s) under grow lights (LED or florescent). Water occasionally and turn plant as needed to grow symmetrically. I think Richard Ruffier's suggestion to use a diluted mixture of liquid fertilizer may be beneficial.