



How to Plant Wave Petunias in Ohio

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Wave petunias add low-maintenance brilliant color to the garden.

Wave petunias add brilliant color to your landscaping. These annual flowers can be planted in landscape beds, container [gardens](#), window boxes or [hanging baskets](#). Unlike regular petunias, wave petunias do not require deadheading and bloom continually from spring until first frost. Plant petunias as early as possible, once the threat of frost has passed, to allow the roots maximum time to become established prior to the heat of the Ohio summer.

Instructions

Difficulty: Moderately Easy

- 1 Test your soil. Petunias are relatively low-maintenance plants; however, according to the National [Gardening Association](#), they prefer neutral, nutrient-rich soil that is well-drained. Ohio is [home](#) to over 400 different types of soils; most of which are rich in organic matter, minerals and nutrients courtesy of the glacial ice that once covered most of the state. If your soil already has a high nutrient content, you will not need to add organic matter to the soil prior to planting; however, if your soil is lacking in nutrients, you should add organic matter or compost to the mixture before planting your wave petunias.

Things You'll Need:

[Soil testing kit](#)

[Shovel](#)

[Organic material/compost \(optional\)](#)


[Water](#)


[Balanced fertilizer](#)


Additionally, according to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, soil in the western portion of the state tends to have higher lime content while soils in the eastern region of Ohio tend to be more acidic. Since petunias prefer neutral soil, you may need to add materials to the soil to balance the pH.

- 2 Dig a hole that is as deep and wide as the pot in which you purchased your wave petunias. Select a location that receives a minimum of six hours of sunlight daily. If you are planting several wave petunias, space plants 12 to 24 inches apart. If you are planting your petunias in a container, place three [petunia](#) plants in a container with a 10 to 12 inch diameter. Larger containers should contain more plants -- this is essential to creating proportional blooms.
- 3 Water your wave petunias regularly. Wave petunias should not dry out between watering; this may kill the plant. Container gardens and hanging baskets will dry out faster than landscape beds.
- 4 Add a balanced fertilizer to feed your wave petunias. Petunias are heavy-feeders and require regular fertilization. Wave petunias should be fertilized weekly, less frequently if you are using a time-released fertilizer.

Tips & Warnings

 Buy a soil testing kit at your local nursery. Experts will be able to guide you through the process and steer you to the right plants for your soil type.

 According to University of Minnesota Extension, gardeners should wait until the soil reaches a minimum of 60 degrees Fahrenheit prior to planting wave petunias. Ohio is in growing zones 5 and 6, with the average coldest wintertime temperatures between 0 and minus 15 degrees Fahrenheit. Ohio's soil temperatures usually reach 60 degrees in mid-April.

 When possible, rotate the areas in which you plant wave petunias -- do not plant them in the same spot two years in a row.

References

[National Gardening Association: Garden Petunia](#)

[Ohio Department of Natural Resources: Ohio Soil Regions](#)

[University of Minnesota Extension: Growing Petunias](#)

[Wave Petunias: FAQ](#)

Resources

[Ohio Growing Zones by County](#)

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