

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Foamflower: light flowers for a cool garden spot

Heart-leaved foamflower spreads lobed leaves in a shady bed. Fine creamy-white flower clusters rise above its foliage in spring.



AI-created garden scene based on original shop images. It shows an established flowering plant; a young plant in a 9 cm pot at around 15–25 cm height is delivered. Flower stage and accompanying plants are examples.

Grow with knowledge.

A collection for observation and reference. Detailed explanations to help you make care decisions suited to your plant and its position.

Issue September 2026

PLANT PORTRAIT

Tiareella cordifolia

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Botanical name	Tiareella cordifolia
Growth	Runner-forming perennial
Flowering period	Spring, often around May; depending on position and weather
Flower colour	Creamy white
Expected height	Up to around 30 cm including flower stems; shop delivery height 15-25 cm
Planting time	Preferably spring or autumn; potted stock also at other times in frost-free, non-waterlogged soil
Spacing	Around 30-40 cm as a guide for later leaf cushions
Position	Partial shade to shade, cool and humus-rich

Care at a glance

Observe, check and adapt care to the position and season. This table provides guidance for everyday practice.

Topic	What to do	Why it helps
Position	Plant in sheltered partial shade to shade.	Soil and leaves stay cooler there than in hot midday sun.
Soil	Prepare humus-rich soil with consistent available moisture.	Foamflower develops leaf cushions best with available moisture.
Planting time	Preferably plant in spring or autumn.	Mild moist soil eases establishment of the young potted plant.
Spacing	Leave around 30–40 cm between plants as a guide.	Leaf cushions later spread sideways.
Watering in	Water thoroughly after planting and check the root ball in its first year.	A 9 cm potted plant has not yet rooted into surrounding soil.
Summer	Water the root zone in dry weather even in shade.	Shady beds can also dry heavily beneath woody plants.
Winter	Maintain soil drainage and avoid extreme winter wetness.	The RHS recommends protection against excessive winter wetness.
Maintenance pruning	Remove faded stems and damaged leaves as needed.	This keeps cushions tidy without unnecessarily injuring fresh growth.

Knowledge that grows

A light accent beneath leaves

Not every garden spot receives much sun. *Tiarella cordifolia* shows how beautiful a cool area under shrubs or at a shady bed edge can be. Lobed, often heart-shaped leaves form low cushions, with fine creamy-white flowers above in spring. We particularly like this balance: foliage carries the plant through most of the season, while flowers add a light accent for a while. The shop offers a young plant in a 9 cm pot at around 15 to 25 cm delivery height. A flowering established garden scene shows a possible later effect, not a guaranteed arrival condition.

Shade alone is not enough

We choose partial shade to shade that does not dry completely. Cool humus-rich soil with even moisture fits better than dusty earth beside a thirsty woody root. Under shrubs, loosen the planting area carefully without damaging larger roots, mixing in well-rotted organic material if needed. In heavy soil also make sure water does not stand long in winter. Foamflower likes moisture-retentive conditions, but a waterlogged hollow is not the same as good woodland-garden soil.

Small potted plant, later leaf cushion

Before planting we try the pot in position. *Tiarella* can spread sideways through runners. Around 30 to 40 cm spacing gives individual plants room without leaving the area looking empty permanently; the exact effect depends on soil and neighbours. Place the root ball at its previous height, gently firm soil and water thoroughly. In the first weeks, check moisture directly beside the original 9 cm root ball. Particularly in shade, the soil surface may still look dark although the small root ball already needs water.

Read flowers and leaves through the season

Small creamy-white flowers form loose upright clusters in spring, often around May. Afterwards, leaf cushions remain the main ornament. Some leaves take bronze tones during the year. Remove old flower stalks when untidy; leave fresh leaves alone. No fixed pruning schedule is needed. In a dry summer, water when the root zone needs it, even under shrubs. Shade does not automatically protect against drought, since larger neighbours' roots also drink.

Plant when the soil cooperates

Spring and autumn are favourable planting times for perennials because temperatures are generally milder and soils moister. Potted plants can also be planted at other times as long as soil is not frozen or waterlogged. In summer warmth they then need particularly attentive watering until established. Later, chiefly monitor extreme dry spells and winter drainage. The species is perennial and its above-ground appearance changes between seasons. This need not indicate a care mistake.

A bed that works up close too

Foamflower looks best where you can see its delicate flowers and leaf markings: beside a path, in front of shrubs or beside other low shade plants. One young potted plant does not yet fill a large area. Plan for later width and allow time to form a connected carpet. If leaf margins become dull, check moisture and position before feeding or cutting. The right answer often already follows from whether soil beneath foliage is cool and moist or dry and compacted.

Pictures and details

Images and descriptions from this portrait. Decorative items are not included in the offer.



Original shop image shows foliage and young delivery plant separately. 9 cm pot, around 15–25 cm delivery height.



Original shop photograph of flowering. The young delivery plant in a 9 cm pot may look different outside flowering; the garden scene shows later development.

Good to know

How much shade does *Tiarella cordifolia* tolerate?

Partial shade to shade suits. Fairly cool humus-rich soil that does not dry for long is important too.

When does it flower, and what colour?

In spring, often around May, with small creamy-white flowers. Exact timing depends on position and weather.

How tall does it become?

The RHS gives up to around 30 cm including flower stems. The actual delivery plant is stated at 15–25 cm in the shop.

What planting spacing should I use?

Around 30–40 cm is a horticultural guide for later leaf cushions; adjust according to the desired coverage.

Is it annual?

No, it is perennial. Foliage can change with season and weather.

The matching offer

[View plant in the shop](#)

Product details, availability and delivery information are provided in the shop offer.

[Read the complete portrait in English](#)



English portrait



Shop offer