

Phalaenopsis Orchids

Commonly known as the 'Moth Orchid' these plants are now the world's most popular potted orchid. Perhaps no other orchid is better suited to growing in the home with long lasting sprays of blooms. Following some key instructions for their care will help you enjoy growing Phalaenopsis orchids for many years.

LIGHT & TEMPERATURE

- * These orchids like bright light, but no direct sun.
- * Generally orchids prefer temperatures between 24-29 degree, although temperatures between 16-18 degrees in autumn will help promote flower spikes.
- * Do not place too close to windows during winter, as the orchid can become exposed to cold. 30cm back from the glass is a good rule of thumb.
- * The leaves should be naturally semi-erect and a medium green colour. Limp, dark foliage indicates too little light.

WATER & HUMIDITY

- * Keep the orchid moist, once watered wait until it's almost dried out before watering again, but never let the plant dry out.
- * Phalaenopsis orchids do better in humidity, so misting the plants or placing them on top a dish of gravel filled with water can help lift the moisture level.

FEEDING

- * Regular feeding during growing season with a specifically formulated orchid food will ensure all the nutrients it needs.

REPOTTING

- * The best time to repot your Phalaenopsis orchid is in spring.
- * Plants in sphagnum moss should be repotted yearly, for all others repot between 1-3 years using specific orchid potting mix, preferably a bark mixture.
- * When repotting, trim off any rotted or soft roots.