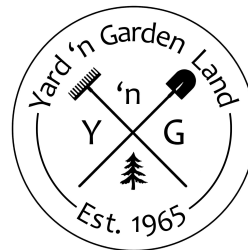


# ORCHIDS 101



## Simple Steps for Healthy Plants



1501 NE 102<sup>nd</sup> Street

Vancouver, WA 98686

(360) 573-7172

[info@yardngardenland.com](mailto:info@yardngardenland.com)

[www.yardngardenland.com](http://www.yardngardenland.com)



# ORCHIDS ARE NOT DIFFICULT TO GROW! FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS FOR EASY CARE AND BEAUTIFUL PLANTS

## Light

Orchids need plenty of sunlight otherwise they won't bloom. Provide as much as possible without burning the leaves. Southern or western exposure is best. Light green leaves and strong upright growth is a sign of the correct amount. Increase light if the leaves are dark green.

## Air

Orchid roots need air. With the exception of terrestrial varieties, they should be planted in orchid bark. Bark holds moisture while allowing for airflow.

Orchids do not like stagnant air. Use a fan to provide gentle airflow. Keep the temperature between 55 and 75 degrees.

Humidity is very important. Place pots on a bed of gravel and water. As the water evaporates, it will add humidity to the surrounding air.

## Water

Water orchids when the pot feels light or if the bark is dry. Most orchids will need water every 2 -4 weeks. Soak the pot for 10 minutes in the sink or let the water run through. Distilled water is better if soaking.

## Fertilizer

Fertilize with a soluble product at ½ strength every 2 weeks during the summer and every 4 – 6 weeks during the winter. Soak bark before fertilizing.

## Repotting

Repot if the bark has broken down or the roots are dry or mushy (healthy roots are green or white and plump). Roots frequently grow on the outside of the pot. This is not always a sign the plant needs repotting. However, if the roots have run out of room and are pushing the plant up out of the container, the plant may need to be shifted into a larger pot. In this case, increase the pot size only slightly, no more than 1 inch overall.

Repot after flowering. Remove from the pot and cut off dead or rotting roots with a **sterilized razor blade**. A clean cut is key. Add bark to the bottom of the pot, place the plant and fill.