## ☆Mahoney's

#### HOUSEPLANT CARE GUIDES

Orchidaceae

# ORCHID

## **Ö** Light

Orchids thrive in bright, indirect light. Avoid direct sunlight, as it can scorch their leaves, leading to yellowing or sunburn spots. Dark green leaves may indicate insufficient light, while red-tinted leaves suggest too much light.



We recommend fertilizers like Espoma Organic Orchid! bloom booster, Miracle gro Orchid plant food mist, or Organic Plant Magic. These options provide essential nutrients to keep your plants vibrant and thriving.



Some orchids, such as Phalaenopsis or Dendrobium, produce baby plants called keikis on their flower spikes or stems. Wait until the keiki has developed several roots that are at least 2-3 inches long. Carefully cut the keiki from the mother plant and pot it in a small container with a well-draining orchid mix.



#### SOIL

For Orchids, we recommend using Espoma's Organic Orchid Mix. This specialized mix is designed to provide the ideal environment for orchid roots. To ensure healthy aerial roots and airflow, it's important to use an orchid-specific pot, which contains many openings along the sides and bottom of the pot for circulation.

### TEMPERATURE

Orchids thrive in temperatures between 65-75°F (18-24°C) during the day and slightly cooler at night, ideally around 60°F (16°C). These temperature variations can help trigger blooming. Avoid exposing orchids to cold drafts, sudden temperature changes, or heat sources like radiators, as they can stress the plant.



### **PET FRIENDLY** ?

Always check specific orchid varieties to confirm, but most are safe for your furry friends! However, it's a good idea to keep them out of reach to prevent pets from chewing on the leaves or flowers, as this can sometimes cause very mild stomach upset.

#### **REGION OF ORIGIN**

Central America, South America

## **W**ATER

Orchids prefer to be watered when their roots and potting medium are dry but not completely parched, typically about once a week. Use roomtemperature water and water thoroughly, allowing excess to drain completely to prevent root rot. Never let the orchid sit in standing water.



Watch out for common pests like mealybugs, scale, and spider mites. Regularly inspect your orchid and clean the leaves with a damp cloth to prevent infestations. If pests are spotted, treat them promptly using natural or chemical remedies.

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