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## Quick Tips To Growing Great Orchids!

By David S

Orchids have an undeserved reputation for being difficult to grow and care for

in the home. This probably stems from the early years of orchid cultivation when orchids imported from the tropics died so frequently in English greenhouses that botanist John Lindley referred to England as "a cemetery for orchids". While it is difficult to grow orchids from seed - it requires a specialized growing medium and 3-4 years worth of patience - once mature, most orchids are as easy to care for as any other houseplant - and easier than most.

### Growing Medium

Most orchids are epiphytic - that is, they take their nutrients from the air. They may grow on bark, sphagnum moss, cork plaques or in gravel or charcoal. With very rare exceptions, do NOT pot orchids in potting soil.

### Watering

The best rule of thumb is to mist plants every few days with distilled water, and only water when the potting medium is nearly dry. Because there are so many varieties of orchids, it's important to consult an orchid book or follow the plant's watering directions.

### Light

A sunny windowsill is a good place for your orchids. In winter or in northern states, natural sunlight may need to be supplemented with gro-lights or other fluorescent lights to ensure that your orchids get enough light. In midsummer or in southern states, many orchids may require some protection from the bright sun. Watch leaves for signs of sunburn or lack of light and adjust accordingly.

Circulating Air is an often overlooked necessity for orchids. Because most orchids take their nutrients directly from the air, they do best when there is a steady, constant stream of air around them. A small fan or an open window will provide enough air flow to keep them happy.

## Quick Tips To Growing Great Orchids!

And these are just a few tips to get you started growing beautiful orchids in your home. For more information on growing and cultivating orchids please go to [OrchidGeeks.com](http://OrchidGeeks.com)

For more Informative about Orchid Care and how to grow them please visit

<http://www.orchidgeeks.com>

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### **Orchids Are One Of Nature's Most Beautiful Flowers**

**By Mike Yeager**

Orchids are beautiful flowers. The interesting thing about orchids is that they seem to draw people to them. There is hardly another plant or flower that has been able to capture the attention and desire of people the way orchids have. In the past orchids have been hunted and collected in almost every part of the world. Today there are millions of people who are absolutely devoted to the plant and its beautiful "faces."

It's estimated that there are nearly 20 thousand varieties of orchids. They grow in many different climates and regions. There are some important factors to consider when growing your orchids. Light is probably the single most important factor in determining whether or not your plants will bloom. The appropriate amount of light is necessary for proper plant growth and nutrient storage. Without the right light levels, your plant either cannot produce enough food stores to power a blooming cycle. Too much light may burn the orchid and too little light will not support its needs.

An interesting feature of growing orchids is that a plant can live for a long time even with light that is less than ideal, but you probably won't have any flowers. On the other side thought a large and healthy plant that has grown for a long time without enough light will often put on an impressive display once given proper lighting. This means that orchids are very durable and resilient.

As you seek to grow the perfect orchid, take your time and look around as you decide where in your garden you'd like to grow orchids. It will be well worth the patient time and effort you put in to see splendid, beautiful orchids in full bloom.

Mike Yeager

Publisher

<http://www.a1-flowers-4u.com/>

[mjy610@hotmail.com](mailto:mjy610@hotmail.com)

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