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Some Simple Pruning Advice For Your Plants

By Gabriel Adams

The best way to keep your plants looking good and healthy is to keep them pruned. However, the average person doesn't know how to prune their plants. We're going to look at a few of the basics you will need to know in order to keep your plants looking good.

The biggest reason people will prune their plants is to decide how they will grow. This can be a good and bad thing depending on how it's done. Some variety of plants will stay healthier if they are allowed to grow free. Some plants however can take pruning and are sometimes the better for it. Now let us discuss some of the steps for pruning your plants.

First let us go ahead and remove dead leaves. These can be pulled right off the plant and don't require any tools. The only use dead leaves have is to deprive a plant of nutrients that could go toward live leaves to gather sunlight.

After you remove all the dead leaves you should start trimming off dead branches. The idea is to get as close to the trunk or thicker branch as you can without scaring it. If you're successful then it will heal.

Lastly, consider trimming off any unhealthy limbs and leaves. This keeps your plant from having to support branches and limbs that aren't helping bring nutrients to it. Usually by doing this what flowers and leaves the plant has that are healthy will become even healthier and maybe even have more vibrant colors.

After doing this you can start trimming your plant to shape. The first thing is to decide what shape you want your plant. After you do that you just start trimming off any branch that you don't need until you get your design. Once you have your shape remember to water your plant and then treat it as you normally would. That's how easy it is to prune your plant!

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Pruning Your Orchid Plants

By Robert Roy

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Pruning Your Orchid

The flowers have all died and when should you cut the stalk back and how far?

Pruning an orchid stalk (spike) should cause no harm to the plant. However, some orchids will produce new bloom shoots from the nodes on the old blossom stalk, or some plants will produce small baby plants (pups) from these nodes. The new plants may be removed and potted after they develop roots. Of course, some orchids do neither of these things. In either case, it doesn't hurt the plant if you remove the old bloom stalk; you may just miss some new blossoms or a baby plant.

Once the stalk turns yellow or brown, it is obvious that no blossoms or plants will be produced. You can then cut it to within an inch from where the blossom stalk originated on the plant. You can also cut it there when it is green if you don't mind losing potential blossoms. Another option is to just remove the end of the blossom stalk to shorten the stalk, but retain enough so that it may bloom again. If you do this, cut it back to about 1/4 inch above a node (indicated by a small leaf-like bract clasping the stalk).

Author and webmaster of Orchids-plus-more.com. This site is primarily about orchid plants and also a commercial site.



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