



Basic Orchid Care

Orchids may seem exotic.... But as one of the oldest known flowers on the planet, the orchid has grown from just another prehistoric plant into one of the most loved flowers today. Whether you wish to send them as a thank you or a message of love, or grow and cultivate them yourself, these beautiful flowers can light up even the drabbest of rooms with their multitude of colors and extravagant looks.

In order for orchids to remain at their best, you need to know the specifics of how to take care of them properly. We are proud to offer many different varieties of orchids and we invite you to pick up one of the various care sheets we have here at the garden center. Also as a general rule, the following guidelines will help your orchids thrive:

- There are two sets of temperatures to keep orchids at. While they can go as low as 60 degrees Fahrenheit at night, you should keep them between 75-85 degrees F in daylight hours.
- Although orchids enjoy indirect sunlight, try keeping them shaded during the warmer parts of the day, especially between 11:00am and 3:00pm.
- Water is not as important a factor in how to take care of orchids as it might be with other house plants. Unlike many plants, orchids grow as if they were on top of trees, so very little water is required.
- You only need to worry about re-potting an orchid roughly every two or three years. Unless they outgrow their pot or the mixture they are planted in becomes damaged, then you will need to re-pot your plant.
- When it comes to feeding an orchid, they are very low maintenance. Since they thrive on sunlight and a minimum of water, you only need to add to this once a month with alternative products. A good source of nourishment is any kind of fertilizer that is high in nitrogen. The good thing with orchids is that they can be fed all year round, unlike many other plants.
- Maintaining the plant is extremely easy. When the very last flower has gone, simply cut down the stem of the flower spike, and then seal the cut with either melted candle wax or a slight amount of powdered cinnamon. Keep looking after the plant until you can see if it's going to bloom again.

Please contact a Superior Garden Center employee if you have further questions.

superior@tranquility.net
573-442-9499