



# Oncidium Hybrid Care



This group of orchids is very popular as they have such a wide range of colours, shapes and patterns. Ranging from large showy flowers on compact stems to tall branching spikes of many tiny bright blooms. The plants are compact in habit so making them easy to cope with in the home grown as windowsill orchids. Often the plants will flower twice a year or more as they increase in size and have growths at different stages around the plant. A plant should be re-potted when it has outgrown its pot, about every 2-3 years.

**RE-FLOWERING:** Keep these orchids cool and light all the year and they should re-flower easily on the season's completed bulb. Keeping them too warm can prevent blooming.

**TEMPERATURE:** Oncidium hybrids need a minimum of 10°C (50°F) in winter to give them a sufficient change in conditions from the warmer summer, when a maximum of 30°C (85°F) is adequate. However due to the cross breeding that has made many of the modern hybrids these varieties are often more heat tolerant and will grow a little warmer.

**LIGHT:** Keep shaded from bright, direct summer sun as this can scorch the leaves. Give as much light as possible during the dull winter months.

**WATERING:** Keep the free-draining bark compost moist with more frequent watering in the spring and summer, the main growing season. When watering the plant, remove it from any cover pot or saucer, pour water through the pot and then let it drain before placing it back in a decorative planter. Never let the pot stand in water. Allow the compost to dry out slightly and the pot to become lighter before watering again. Add a little orchid fertiliser to the water once every 2 or 3 waterings (approx. every 10-14 days) from March to September.

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