



# Cool Dendrobium Care



The Dendrobium family of orchids is one of the largest and comes from all over the Far East. They are typical in their unusual habit of growth, which consists of tall, thin pseudobulbs, which tend to be called 'canes'. The modern hybrids can be split into two main groups depending on their different temperature requirements. These cooler, 'Nobile' types come from India and tend to produce their flowers along the length of the cane. Australian 'kingianum' types are also cool growing and their pink or white flowers are smaller, scented and flower from the top of the cane,

**RE-FLOWERING:** When the plant has finished flowering, **DO NOT CUT OFF** the tall canes as they are the food store for the plant and will help it flower and grow well in the future. By keeping cool and dry in winter and damp through summer this will encourage the next season's flowering which comes from the newly formed cane. Old canes will remain for several years.

**TEMPERATURE:** Cool types need a drop to 8°C (45°F) in winter to help with flowering, keep cool and maybe stood out of doors in the summer.

**LIGHT:** To help with re-flowering keep all dendrobiums in good light all year round, shaded from the bright summer sun but good light in winter.

**WATERING:** Regularly water in summer and feed with a Grow feed in spring/summer changing to Bloom feed in the autumn. In winter, give a rest period when hardly any water is required and this is necessary for the re-flowering.

Stand in a ceramic pot if they become too top heavy or re-pot into a slightly larger size in spring after flowering.