

Dean's Garden Centre

Guide to Phalaenopsis Orchids

Re-Potting

Re-potting your Phalaenopsis should be done every two or three years. This can be done at any time of year.

Phalaenopsis are grown in clear pots because the roots need light as well as helping to create a humid atmosphere within the pot.

'What compost to use?'

The compost you need is a specialist orchid compost which are often fairly large pieces of bark and fibrous material. This is used to create a very open mixture that retains moisture as well as allowing the roots to breathe.

'What size pot is required?'

The temptation is to choose a larger pot than the one it is in, this is normally a mistake as they enjoy having roots outside the pot, searching for moisture and light.

'Why do I need to re-pot?'

The aim of re-potting is to replace the compost because over time it starts to break down which compacts around the roots restricting the air flow.

Re-Potting in 5 Easy Steps

- 1) Gently remove the plant from its pot and carefully remove the compost from around the roots.
- 2) Cut away any old, dead roots, these are the brown, often shrivelled ones compared to the thick, silvery-green ones and remove any dead flower stems.
- 3) Carefully feed the roots back into the clean pot.
- 4) Pour the fresh compost back around the roots, gently tapping the pot every now and then. Do not compact the compost down too much as this will again restrict the air flow around the roots.
- 5) Spray the roots and repeat daily until established.

If you require any further information please ask a member of our dedicated staff.

Dean's Garden Centre

Stockton-on-the-Forest, York
01904 400141

&

Seamer Road, Scarborough
01723 361814

www.deansgardencentre.co.uk



Phalaenopsis Orchids

A popular variety of orchid, commonly known as the 'Moth Orchid'. This orchid has a vast colour variation of blooms ranging from white, pink, red, purple and yellow with either single solid colour or mixed with spots or stripes.

A Few Phalaenopsis Facts

Origin: Tropical Asia

Area: Philippines

Botanical Name: Phalaenopsis

Common Name: Moth Orchid

Ease of Care: Easy
(*ideal for beginners*)

Position

Bright light, avoiding direct sun.

Humidity

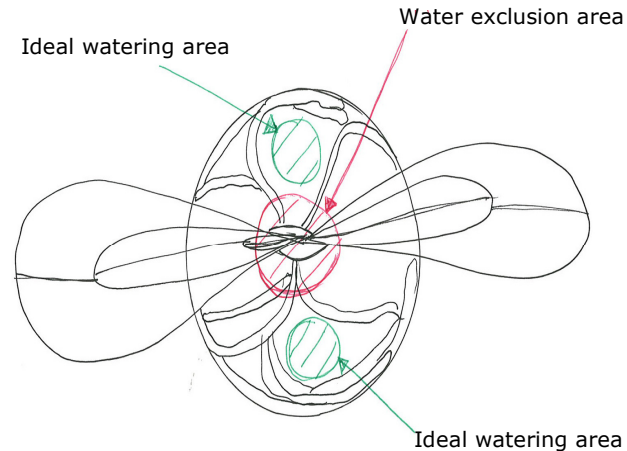
These orchids require humid conditions, in a central heated area. Stand the pot on a saucer of damp horticultural grit.

Watering

Water once or twice a week during April until October and reduce in winter.

Water with rain water if possible or tap water which has been stood indoors overnight so the water is not too cold as this may shock the roots.

Take care that no water enters the growths or middle part of the plant. Avoid this by watering around the edge of the pot.



Birds eye view of Phalaenopsis

Feeding

A well balanced orchid feed should be used every other watering from April - September, this should be reduced to once a month during the winter period.

During & After Flowering

During flowering it is important to provide sufficient support to the flower system. This is achieved by inserting a pea stick or decorative orchid support into the pot, avoiding the edges as this is where the roots are. Use orchid clips to attach the stem to the support. Be careful with new or young stems as these can be brittle.

After flowering, prune the old flower stem to a node, (commonly called scales) the third or fourth one up is usually a good starting point. This will encourage the plant to flower again from that stem which is quicker than a new stem. If the stem starts dying back or makes no attempt to flower again, prune off at the base.

