



ORCHIDS!



WARNER'S
NURSERY

A Plant That Inspired Explorers

Few flowers evoke an emotional response quite like orchids. Their beauty sparked an obsession ("Orchidelirium") in Victorian times, with explorers risking danger and financial ruin to travel the globe and discover new varieties.

What is it about orchids that inspires such devotion? Simply put, there's no flowering plant quite like them.

Their symmetrical, long-lasting blooms often look as if they were sculpted by an artist. They come in all colors (except black) and they can be found in almost any environment. Then there's just the sheer diversity of the species. There are about 28,000 accepted species within the family Orchidaceae, making it the second largest botanical family in existence.

Popular Orchid Varieties

Paphiopedilum ("Slipper Orchids")

- Pouch-shaped flowers resembling a slipper in earthy tones.

Miltonia ("Pansy Orchids")

- Cheerful, fragrant blooms resembling pansies.

Cymbidium ("Boat Orchids")

- Clusters of long-lasting, waxy blooms in almost every color.

Odontoglossum

- Star-shaped flowers in vibrant hues like with intricate markings.

Cattleya ("Corsage Orchids")

- Famous for their large, fragrant blooms in shades of pink, purple, white, and yellow.

Oncidium ("Dancing Lady Orchids")

- Sprays of flowers that resemble tiny dancing figures, typically in yellow.

Brassia ("Spider Orchids")

- Long, narrow petals resembling spider legs, often in green and brown tones.

Phalaenopsis ("Moth Orchids")

- Broad petals resembling moth wings, available in a variety of colors

Vanda

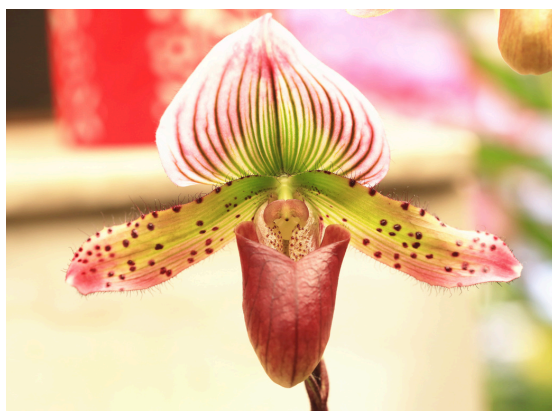
- Large, flat, vividly colored blooms in blue, purple, and red with intricate veining.



Caring for Your Orchid

Every orchid has unique needs, so you'll need to make sure to understand the optimal conditions for the particular species you wish to cultivate.

For example, getting the **light level** right for your orchid is crucial. Cattleya and Oncidium love bright indirect light, but Phalaenopsis and Paphiopedilum prefer lower light.



In general, watch your orchid's leaves for signs of too much or too little light. If they are bright green, you are doing well. If they are dark green, they aren't getting enough light, and if they have a reddish tinge, it's probably too much light.

Overwatering is the most common mistake with orchids, which need a balance of hydration and airflow. In general, water every five to 12 days, adjusting for warmer summers and cooler winters.

Fertilize with an orchid-specific formula once a month during active growth. Pay attention to the directions on the fertilizer; too much will burn your plant's roots, while too little can slow growth and flowering.



Finally, keep the **humidity levels** at about 50% to 70%. That's hard to do in our high desert climate in northern Arizona, so a pebble tray or humidifier is a good idea for your orchid.

Orchids may no longer spark wild expeditions across the globe, but their mystique remains. Whether you're drawn to their fascinating history or their stunning beauty, orchids offer a unique joy to those who care for them.



If you need some help picking out an orchid, come visit us at Warner's Nursery, and we'll help you discover the orchid that speaks to you!