



## PHALAENOPSIS CULTURE

General Guide to basic culture:

**LIGHT & POSITION:** Phalaenopsis require good light but not direct sunlight, even through windows. A good idea is to use a saucer with pebbles in it, keeping water in the saucer for humidity. The plant does not sit in the water but on top of the pebbles.

**TEMPERATURE:** These are strictly house plants and suit the same conditions as African Violets. They like to be as warm as you in winter, and if put outside in the cold they will die.

**WATERING:** In summer and the warmer months they need to be watered at least once per week, allowing to dry out between waterings; reduce to once per fortnight in winter; always water early in the day. A good way to water is to put them under the shower for a couple of minutes, being careful not to wet the flowers.

**FERTILISING:**  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  recommended strength of liquid fertiliser fortnightly from spring through summer using a flowering type of fertiliser, e.g. African Violet fertiliser.

**POTTING:** Most types of orchid mixes can be used; repot when the plant has outgrown its pot, or when the potting mix breaks down and becomes soggy.

For more information visit an orchid society such as The North Shore Orchid Society which meets at 8.00pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at the Forestville Memorial Hall, Starkey St, Forestville. All visitors welcome.



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