



Surrey, BC, Canada
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Cattleya and *Cattleya* Intergenerics

Known as the “corsage orchid” or “queen of the orchids”, *Cattleyas* are among the most glamorous. Hybridizing has produced plants of various sizes: standard over 12 inch, compact between 6 inch and 12 inch, and miniature under 6 inch. They are available in an incredible array of color combinations and patterns. Blooms often have stunning spicy and floral scents. They display 1 to 4 blooms lasting 3 to 5 weeks. Blooming season varies depending on variety.

Temperature: *Cattleyas* prefer temperatures of 18 to 27°C (65 to 80°F) during the day and night temperatures of 15 to 20°C (60 to 68°F). Keep out of draft.

Light: *Cattleyas* prefer the bright light of a south window with sheers curtains. Avoid direct light during the midday. With proper light, leaves will be deep green with a little red pigment.

Watering: Water generously, let dry between watering. Do not let stand in water. Water once a week during the winter and every 3 to 5 days during the summer. Use a humidity tray to increase local humidity.

Fertilizing: Fertilize at one-quarter to one-half strength with 28-14-14 at every watering to promote new growth. When new growth matures, start fertilizing with 10-30-20 at half strength to promote flowering.

Re-blooming: Given proper care, the stem develops at the top of mature new “pseudobulb”, the fleshy growth that carries the leaves. Mature plants can bloom 2 to 3 times a year.

Repotting and potting medium type: A coarse free-draining medium, containing medium to larger sized bark, is recommended. Repot every 12 to 24 months, as required. Best time for repotting is when the new growth starts to grow roots.