



Surrey, BC, Canada
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Cymbidium

There are 2 main types of *Cymbidiums*: standard with foliage taller than 45cm (15in) and mini with foliage shorter than 45cm (15in). They are available in white, red, pink, yellow, green, and orange. Some cultivars of standard and mini-cymbidiums are fragrant. *Cymbidiums* have upright stems carrying 5 to 15 blooms that last 4 to 6 weeks.

Temperature: *Cymbidiums* are great patio plants. Place plants outside after danger of spring frost has passed and bring indoors before the first fall frost. Average household temperatures 18 to 24°C (65 to 75°F) during the day, and 14 to 20°C (60 to 68°F) at night, are suitable from mid-fall to early spring. Keep out of drafts.

Light: These plants like bright but not direct light, once acclimatized they can take east/west window or patio, or a shaded south-facing patio. Indoors, they do best in an east or west facing window, or south facing window with a sheer curtain.

Watering: From late spring through fall keep the plants moist but not soaking wet. Do not let stand in water. During the winter months water less often, every 14 to 17 days.

Fertilizing: Fertilize at ½-¾ 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: Fall cooling is necessary to initiate blooming; plants should remain outdoors as long as there is no danger of frost. Standard cymbidiums bloom mid-winter through late spring. Mini-cymbidiums bloom late spring through fall.

Repotting and potting medium type: Repot when medium break down. Use a fresh terrestrial orchid potting mixture containing medium grades fir bark, charcoal and perlite. *Cymbidiums* do not like their roots disturbed and sometimes will not re-bloom for 1 year after repotting.