



Surrey, BC, Canada
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Dendrobium, Formosa Type, section Formosae

The genus *Dendrobium* is one of the largest groups within the orchid family. They can be grouped into smaller categories called sections. *Dendrobiums* from the Formosae, carry large white flower. Short stems carry 2 to 4 blooms lasting 4 to 6 weeks. The main blooming season is winter.

Temperature: These *Dendrobiums* prefer temperatures of 18 to 26°C (65 to 80°F) during the day and cooler at night, 13 to 18°C (55 to 65°F). Cooler temperatures when the plant is in bloom will increase bloom longevity. Keep out of draft.

Light: Formosae *Dendrobiums* prefer medium to high light such as that of a shaded west or south window. Leaves normally dark green, will bleach if the plant gets too much light or darken if not enough light is given. Growths are often covered with fine black hairs.

Watering: Water generously, let dry between watering. Do not let stand in water. Water every 5 to 8 days while new growth is maturing and when in bloom; less when growth is complete until new growth appears, every 7 to 10 days.

Fertilizing: Fertilize at $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ strength with 28-14-14 at every watering while new growth is maturing. When new growth is mature, start fertilizing with 10-30-20 at half strength to promote flowering.

Re-blooming: Given proper care, clusters develop at the top of mature new growth, as well as along the top of the growth, opposite leaves. Blooming season is generally winter.

Repotting and potting medium type: Repot every 12 to 24 months, as required. A coarse free-draining potting mix, predominantly medium grade fir bark and coarse perlite, is recommended. Do not over pot.