



Surrey, BC, Canada
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Vanilla sp.

Vanilla is a climbing vine which requires support. The flowers are white, cream, green or topaz but will not appear until the vine is at least 6 m (20 feet). The pollinated flowers of *Vanilla planifolia* produce a fruit which, when sun dried, is used as vanilla flavoring.

Temperature: *Vanilla* likes warm household temperatures 20 to 28°C (68 to 82°F), but can tolerate warmer temperatures with good air movement. Keep out of drafts.

Light: These plants will thrive in moderate to high light and do best in a protected south or west facing window.

Watering: Water weekly. *Vanilla* requires good humidity; misting the leaves in early morning is beneficial as is a humidity tray. Leaves and stems should remain plump. Do not let stand in water.

Fertilizing: Fertilize at ¼ strength with 28-14-14 every 2 weeks.

Re-blooming: *Vanilla* will produce single blooms opposite a leaf once the vine is well established and large enough.

Repotting and potting medium type: Use a fresh orchid potting mixture containing perlite and medium grades fir bark. Repot as media breaks down. Large vines may be entirely epiphytic and not require potting.