



Surrey, BC, Canada
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Vuykstekeara

This is an intergeneric hybrid containing 3 different genera of orchids: *Miltoniopsis*, *Odontoglossum*, and *Cochlioda*. These elegant plants are usually red with white or pink markings. The long upright stem carries 5 to 20 flowers lasting 4 to 8 weeks. On mature plants, the stem may branch increasing the number of flowers.

Temperature: Average household temperatures 18 to 22°C (65 to 72°F) during the day, and 14 to 20°C (60 to 68°F) at night. These plants appreciate lots of air movement. Keep out of drafts.

Light: The low to intermediate light of a bright north or east facing window or a shaded west window are best. Too much light will result in red pigment on the leaves and pseudobulbs.

Watering: Water generously. Let medium approach dryness. Do not allow to dry out. Water every 5 to 7 days when plant in active growth or in warmer household. In cooler homes water every 8 to 9 days. Do not let stand in water.

Fertilizing: Fertilize at 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: *Vuykstekeara* bloom on mature new growth. They require a cool period of temperatures between 13 to 18°C (55 to 64°F) to bloom. This is usually easily achieved by placing on a cool windowsill. Blooming season is generally late winter to early summer.

Repotting and potting medium type: Repot every 12 to 24 months, as required. Use a fresh medium grade fir bark and charcoal mixture.