



# Orchid Identification

# Cattleya

(KAT-lee-ah)

This beautiful flower is characterized by its three narrow sepals, two fringed petals, and fringed lip with various markings and specks. They are often fragrant to attract their butterfly pollinators. Known as corsage orchids, they were the most popular orchid in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.



# Phalaenopsis

(fayl-eh-NOP-siss)

These flowers are sometimes called moth orchids because some species resemble moths in flight. Phalaenopsis are among the most popular orchids sold because they are easy to care for and the inflorescences are long lived. Individual blooms may last up to 3 months.



# Cymbidium

(sym-BID-ee-um)

The name is derived from the Greek word *kumbos*, meaning 'hole, cavity'. It refers to the form of the base of the lip. They are prized for their long-lasting sprays of flowers, used especially as cut flowers or for corsages.



# Paphiopedilum

(paff-ee-oh-PED-ih-lum)

Paphiopedilums are also known as slipper orchids because their pouch resembles a shoe. Members of this genus are considered highly collectible due to the curious and unusual form of their flowers. They are also the only orchid genus that cannot be tissue cultured, another reason why they are highly valued by orchid collectors.



# Dendrobium

(den-DROH-bee-um)

Dendrobium is a diverse genus of orchids with different cultural needs. Many go through a growth phase, and must be given water and temperature to match these periods of growth and rest. Flowers can last one day to many weeks, depending on the type.





# Miltoniopsis

(mil-toh-nee-OPP-sis)

Because of the familiar shape and markings of these spectacular flowers, Miltoniopsis are often called “Pansy Orchids.” The popularity of the Miltoniopsis orchid is increasing rapidly, thanks in part to the development of rigorous hybrid methods that can produce plants in greater quantities.



# Oncidium

(on-SID-ee-um)

Flowers in the genus *Oncidium* have a callus-like feature on its large lower lip. The flowers typically have long flower spikes, with many small flowers. They are commonly known as the dancing lady orchid because the flower's lip resembles a large skirt. The *Oncidium* hybrid (far right) *Sharry Baby* is known for its chocolate-like fragrance.





# Vanda

(VAN-dah)

Vandas are usually grown in hanging baskets because they like to have bare roots. They have large, circular flowers, and strap leaves which are thick and leathery. *Vanda coerulea* is one of the few botanical orchids with blue flowers: a property much appreciated for producing hybrids.

