

Bringing a New Orchid into Your Home"

Ryan "The Orchid Guy"

In today's newsletter, we're going to talk about the "3 Most Important Things You Should Do Whenever

These critical tips can save you months of frustration down the road, simply by following a few key steps...So without any further delay, here they are:

1.) ALWAYS QUARANTINE NEW ORCHIDS:

Always quarantine new orchids for at least 3 weeks when bringing them into your home to prevent them from spreading any pests or diseases to your other plants.

Simply keeping them in a separate room, away from your existing collection during their 3-week quarantine period will do the trick.

During this time, inspect your plant closely and regularly for signs of pests and disease - and don't forget to look under the leaves because

this is where unwelcome insects will most often be hanging out.

After 3 weeks, if all signs suggest that the plant looks healthy and pest-free, then you can consider it safe to move it with your permanent collection.

2.) WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T MOVE YOUR ORCHID!

Once you've determined where you're going to place your orchid in your home, orient the plant so that the flower spike is growing in the direction of the best light - and then leave it there. And fight ALL urges to move it again!

Here's why:

It's very important that you don't move the plant's orientation once the flower spike begins to grow. If you do, the spike will try to reorient itself to the best light again, and this is going to result in

A twisted, distorted spike.

Instead, wait until all the flowers have finished opening before moving your orchid again. The fact that the flowers have all opened will tell you that the spike has finished growing and it's now safe to move or reorient your plant as you would like!

3.) STAY AWAY FROM DECORATIVE POTS

This may come as a shock to you, but you should NEVER place your orchid directly in a decorative pot, and here's why:

Unlike most houseplants, orchid roots and leaves are EXTREMELY sensitive to the paints and glazes used in decorative pots...

So sensitive in fact, those orchids can very easily experience a toxic reaction to the metal-based glazes found on most decorative pots today!

Many retail flower shops these days will sell orchids directly placed in decorative containers because they look more attractive this way when on display.

What you may not realize is that this is setting up your orchid for a quick demise!

Instead, you should always place your orchid in a plastic or natural clay pot first, and then position that container in a decorative pot for display purposes only.

So, if you've recently purchased or received an orchid as a gift, check right now to make sure that your orchid was first potted in a plastic or natural clay pot.

How does it look? Is your orchid okay?

If not, you should repot the plant as soon as possible - and if you're not sure how to do that exactly, don't worry... because we'll be covering repotting in more detail in a later newsletter.

Or you can learn how to repot an orchid right now by checking out our book. There's an entire chapter devoted to repotting, including a step-by-step photo demonstration of exactly how to repot an orchid!

You get to *see* all my little "tricks" first-hand, which is not something that's covered in this newsletter and something that many readers have found extremely helpful.

After all, watching someone who has done something many times before is really the best way to take the "guess-work" out of any process, isn't it?