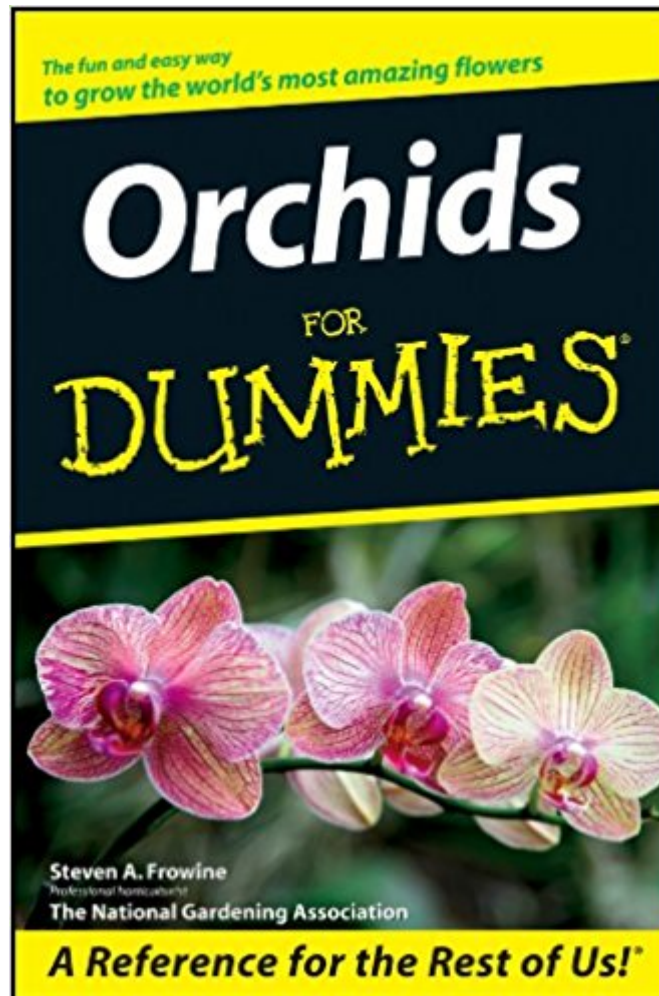




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Orchids For Dummies



Synopsis

Packed with photos, including 8 pages in full color Color your world with orchids Orchids are beautiful, fragrant, wonderfully varied, and surprisingly affordable. But aren't they hard to grow at home? No! says orchid grower extraordinaire Steve Frowine. In this handy guide, he shows you step by step how to select the right orchids, keep them healthy, encourage blooms, and even propagate your own plants. Discover how to: * Select orchids that will thrive in your home * Water, fertilize, repot, and propagate orchids * Decipher complicated orchid names * Get familiar with favorite orchid varieties * Create spectacular orchid displays

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Customer Reviews

Believe it or not, orchids are the most glamorous and spectacular flowering plants in the world, nature's true masterpieces; are easy to grow! You just need to give them what they need. And their requirements are not difficult to meet; adequate light, humidity, water, and ventilation. Sure, there are other nuances, like fertilizing, repotting, insect and disease control, but none of these are daunting. I've been growing and blooming orchids in my home for almost 40 years; mostly not in a greenhouse, but under lights or in the windowsill. Helping you achieve success with these glorious plants is my pleasurable mission. If you follow the steps I lay out in this book, you will grow orchids that thrive. Everything in this book comes from many years of my own trials and errors; not from theories about what should happen or what orchids might need. Sure, I'm a professional horticulturist, but probably more importantly, I'm a hands-on, sometimes fanatical, home orchid grower. I don't share with you anything in this book that I haven't tried myself or am sure that works. Years ago, the methods of orchid

culture were well-guarded secrets, hoarded by commercial growers and private estate gardeners. That's not the case here. This is a tell-all book where all secrets are revealed. So you can now enter this wonderful world of orchids without fear, knowing that you're armed with the information you need to be successful and enjoy one of the most rewarding and fascinating, lifelong hobbies that you'll ever experience — growing orchids.

Packed with photos, including 8 pages in full color Color your world with orchids Orchids are beautiful, fragrant, wonderfully varied, and surprisingly affordable. But aren't they hard to grow at home? No! says orchid grower extraordinaire Steve Frowine. In this handy guide, he shows you step by step how to select the right orchids, keep them healthy, encourage blooms, and even propagate your own plants. Discover how to: Select orchids that will thrive in your home Water, fertilize, repot, and propagate orchids Decipher complicated orchid names Get familiar with favorite orchid varieties Create spectacular orchid displays

I usually look at as much of a book as possible before buying, and sometimes I get a copy from the library to read and decide if I want the book (YES, I do buy books even after I've read them). Neither option was available, so I bought this one. I'm rather disappointed, as it doesn't really answer the questions I have about growing orchids. I've been growing orchids for several years, (phalaenopsis and oncidium) and I still have a lot of questions about growing them. For example, what do you do with the roots that grow outside the pot, when you re-pot the orchid? Tuck them into the potting mix? What if they're too long? Should you wrap them around inside the pot? Cut the ends off? Leave them out? What potting mix is best for specific orchid species? This book lists all the available (and some are not readily available) ingredients, but gives no guidance about specific mixes for specific orchids, just 2 recipes. Also, how firmly do you pack the potting mix around the orchid? More illustrations would have helped. On the other hand, there was too much about too many species of orchids that the average windowsill grower will never want to mess with. And, if one chooses to try something more advanced, one would then turn to advanced books--not a 'For Dummies'. So, if I'd been able to review the content more thoroughly, I would not have bought this book. I'm still looking for a good book on orchid culture!

Or the difference between "repotting" and "changing the potting media (material)...can you reuse plastic containers if u change the potting media and disinfect/clean the old plastic container? These are the specifics I would like to know more about, specifically for moth orchids, which are the most

widely sold type of orchid in the North Eastern United States, so the book could have included more information specific to the most popular beginner orchids being bought at big box stores and supermarkets etc, as orchid specialty stores are not widely available in most areas of the U.S.

Love this book ! I've just started working with Orchids, and need all the help I can get. This book is an easy read, is quite humorous while at the same time, very informative, and I find myself laughing out loud at Mr. Frowine's humor while at the same time, getting a better sense of how these new-to-me 'plants' really work. (So far, my Orchids are still alive !)

The book is full of great information for those who are just starting out with growing orchids. The item was shipped in a flimsy plastic bag, relying on the rigidity of the book. As a result, the book arrived severely bent and smashed to the point that it is extremely difficult to read the book. They didn't have any more so I got a full refund without any question. But, I really needed the book and wasted a week waiting on this just to have it arrive and tease me.

This book is helpful for the beginner but on a most critical subject - watering orchids - it is of little help. It itemizes about ten variables that can influence how often to water but gives no specific directions. It concludes the discussion by saying that the leaves will indicate when an orchid is being watered too much or too little and goes on to state that the symptoms are the same for either condition. It then recommends repotting the dying orchid in an attempt to save it. So then what?

not very useful. More information found online than in this book.

I AM A DUMMY ABOUT THIS SUBJECT. I LEARNED A LOT

Very good book for a beginner.

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