

Regal Orchids Ltd

43 Church Street, Alloa
Clackmannanshire
Scotland, FK10 1DH
Tel/Fax: 01259 210569
info@regalorchids.co.uk
[Http://www.regalorchids.co.uk](http://www.regalorchids.co.uk)

Regal Orchids Culture Sheet For Vanda



There are approximately 40 Vanda species recorded from tropical Asia. Most are epiphytic with strap-like leathery leaves set in regular double rows. The flowers appear on upright stems that grow from the mature leaf axils. Vandas are most famous for the brilliant blue *Vanda Coerulea*. This species is protected but there are some striking hybrids that have *v. coerulea* as a parent. Crosses with other vanda alliance species, such as *Ascocentrum* have led to many coloured varieties called Ascocenda that remain smaller and are more suited to modern homes.

Indoor Cultivation

LIGHT

As bright as possible all year round. A south facing windowsill, conservatory or greenhouse will give them the good light they require for flowering.

TEMPERATURE

Night-time temps should range from 62-65°F (17-18°C). Daytime temps should range from 65-75°F (18-24°C) in summer, less in winter. The blue varieties should be kept a little cooler.

HUMIDITY

Since Vandas are truly air plants they require regular misting. 50% or more is ideal, rising to 90% or more during watering. One method is to dip the plant roots completely into water for 30mins or so every few days. It is now possible to purchase plants already placed in glass vases. This will aid the watering regime and allow the plant to be portable. There is no need therefore to remove the plant for watering and can remain in its vase for a year or two until it is becoming too top heavy to be stable. Then move to a larger vase.

WATER

Use a 50:50 mix of rain and tap water for best results. (Allow the tap water to stand open in its container preferably for 24hrs indoors to release any chlorines and to warm up the water – cold water can shock plants and roots). Water regularly in Spring and Summer as the plant is growing, less in Winter. Remember to spray the leaves and roots regularly.

FERTILIZER

Every second watering. We recommend using special orchid food available from **Regal Orchids** or use normal household plant fertilizer at 1/2 the recommended dosage.

Ideal formula Orchid Food is readily available from Regal Orchids.

FLOWERING

This plant can flower at various times of the year but usually in Winter or Spring depending on the type. Normally 4-8 flowers of large size are produced per flower stem and should last from 4-6 weeks from the time the buds open. Once finished and the stem is turning brown, cut the stem back to its base and carry on watering and feeding as normal.

REPOTTING

Repot this plant only when absolutely

necessary as broken roots take a long time to recover. A glass vase is ideal for keeping this plant or for collectors, suspension from a wire hung high in the greenhouse is ideal.

HINTS & TIPS

- Let the aerial roots dangle free to absorb moisture from the surrounding air.
- Spray, Spray, Spray!