

Orchid: troubleshooting



How to Revive a Struggling Orchid

Even if your orchid looks unhealthy, small adjustments can bring it back to life. Pictured is a healthy orchid and its roots.

Common Issues and Solutions:

- **Yellowing Leaves?** Likely overwatering or too much direct sun. Adjust accordingly.
- **Shriveled, lifeless roots?** The orchid is dehydrated. Increase watering slightly and raise humidity.
- **Mushy, rotting roots?** Root rot—trim affected roots and repot in fresh orchid mix.
- **Buds dropping before blooming?** Caused by temperature fluctuations or low humidity. Keep conditions stable.

Steps to Rescue a Weak Orchid:

1. **Assess the roots.** Healthy roots should be firm and green/silvery—trim any that are brown, mushy, or hollow.
2. **Repot if necessary** in a fresh, well-draining orchid mix.
3. **Improve airflow and humidity** by adjusting placement or using a humidity tray.
4. **Resume normal care** with careful watering and proper lighting—avoid drastic changes.

Orchids can recover beautifully with patience and the right conditions.