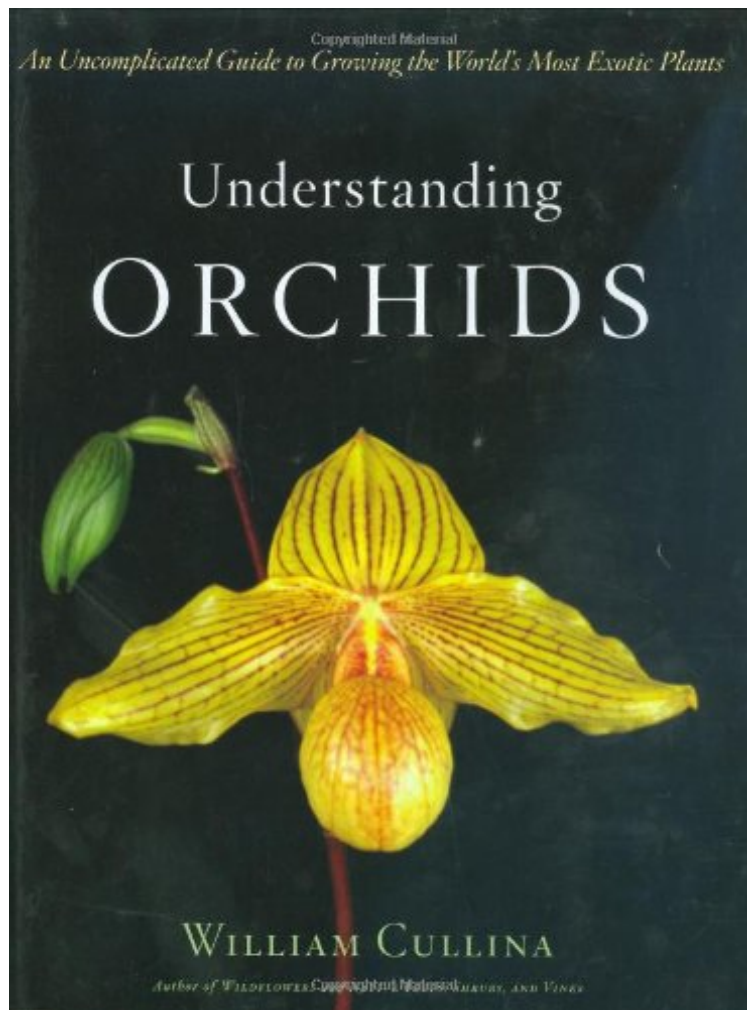


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Understanding Orchids: An Uncomplicated Guide to Growing the World's Most Exotic Plants

William Cullina

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William Cullina : Understanding Orchids: An Uncomplicated Guide to Growing the World's Most Exotic Plants before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Understanding Orchids: An Uncomplicated Guide to Growing the World's Most Exotic Plants:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Best orchid guide out there.By theorchidmantisI have looked through at least 20 different orchid guides, and I'm still glad my dad bought me this one. It's packed full of useful information, all written in an understandable, entertaining way, with gorgeous color pictures throughout the book showing you what to expect to see, etc. Quite a few of my orchids owe their lives to the troubleshooting guide, and the

detail with which he goes into every topic is extremely helpful. He also makes sure to address various situations of various growers--those with greenhouses, those with windowsills, etc. I haven't hit an issue yet that I haven't found a discussion on in this book. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A great addition to any orchidist's library. By B. Louis I have been growing orchids for nearly 30 years and don't find much new information in most books anymore. I was a bit hesitant about ordering this book so I tried the free Kindle sample and was pleasantly surprised and was very anxious for the hard copy to arrive! There is a ton of great information in this book; I have read it cover to cover twice already. Whether you are a beginner or have been addicted for awhile, this will become a valuable addition to your library. And the photos are drool-worthy! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars. By Dave Most informative Orchid book I've found for moving from complete beginner to intermediate knowledge.

Orchids are the largest family of plants in the world. With 30,000 known species, you could acquire a different orchid every day for eighty years and still not grow them all. Back in the realm of reality, readers of this beautiful book can quickly and easily find the orchids that are right for them -- which ones will thrive on a windowsill, which prefer artificial lights, and which need a greenhouse; which are for beginners, which for experts. And you can pinpoint the species within a particular genus that are the best ones to start with. Once you select your orchid, William Cullina's authoritative guide explains what to do to keep it alive and healthy. Featuring more than two hundred color photographs, *Understanding Orchids* covers everything you need to know to grow orchids successfully, whatever your level of interest or experience. With improved tissue-culture techniques making orchids more affordable, and the Internet making them readily available to consumers, growing orchids is more popular than ever: membership in the American Orchid Society has more than doubled in the last fifteen years. This is the book orchid fans have been waiting for.

From Publishers Weekly Cullina has maintained a personal collection of orchids for decades, and still gets "that spine tingling, toe-tickling feeling of WOW" from an unfamiliar or outstanding specimen. It's a feeling he's eager to share with "orchid lovers at every level of expertise, from absolute beginner to experienced grower to expert." He succeeds in addressing such a broad audience by organizing his work into independent modules that can be consulted as needed. The first portion covers basic orchid information: detailed guides to growing them on a windowsill, under lights, in a greenhouse or outdoors, and practical advice on meeting their requirements for light, temperature, humidity and air movement in each of those settings. Cullina then systematically examines orchid culture, with in-depth discussions of watering, fertilization, potting and mounting, and pests and diseases. A brief but fascinating overview of orchid reproduction follows, with directions for hand pollinating, propagating and hybridizing. Finally, Cullina meticulously examines more than 100 of the most popular genera. Happily, a good number of these seductively described plants are rated for beginners (the other skill level ratings are experienced and expert). Cullina, who directs the New England Wild Flower Society, is extremely well versed in his subject and a skilled writer. His lively text, with its clear instructions, will make orchid growing as irresistible to readers as it is to Cullina. 300 color photos. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist With 30,000 species, orchids compose the largest plant family in the world. Cullina's informative guide, with 300 color photographs, tells what to look for in buying your first orchid. Much of the book is devoted to a list of common orchid genera, detailing more than 100 of the most popular ones. Each entry contains information on where the plant can be grown (at a window, under lights, or in a greenhouse), the level of skill it requires to grow the plant (beginner, experienced, or expert), and lists a good introductory species that would be easy to grow. Cullina, the author of *Wildflowers* (2000) and *Native Trees, Shrubs, and Vines* (2002), also gives instructions on watering, light, potting, and fertilizing. This extensive guide includes a section on taxonomy and nomenclature and a glossary. George Cohen Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "Cullina . . . is extremely well versed in his subject and a skilled writer. His lively text, with its clear instructions, will make orchid growing as irresistible to readers as it is to Cullina." Publishers Weekly