Repotting an Orchid

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- 1. Place the orchid in a bowl of water for 10 minutes. The water should be just at the top of the pot. This will soften the roots and loosen them from the inside of the pot.
- 2. When you remove the orchid from the bowl of water, add the new orchid media you are going to use to repot it. It is best to repot with moist media.
- 3. Place a blunt knife down the inside of the pot and slide it around the entire pot inside. This will cut any remaining roots away from the inside of the pot.
- 4. Gently squeeze the side of the pot, turn upside down, and pull the orchid out of the pot onto a covered table. If your orchid is potted in a thin, clear plastic pot, you can use a pair of scissors and cut down the side of the pot.
- 5. Gently remove any orchid media that is still attached to the roots. It is best to throw away any old media and repot using new orchid media.
- 6. Using a clean, sterile pair of garden scissors, cut away any dead roots. Dead roots can appear dried and shriveled or black, soft and decaying. A healthy root should feel plump and firm to the touch.
- 7. Use a new pot that is large enough to allow for 2 to 3 years of growth. The crown of the orchid should be positioned just above the top of the pot. Hold the orchid in place with it roots dangling down into the new pot and gently push orchid media down around the roots.
- 8. Continue this process until the pot is full of orchid media, gently compacting the media as you go. When you finish, the orchid should be securely packed in its new pot.
- 9. Water the orchid thoroughly.
- 10. Any repotting will break some of the orchid's roots and it may take a few months for the orchid to settle into its new pot and begin growing again. This is normal.

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