



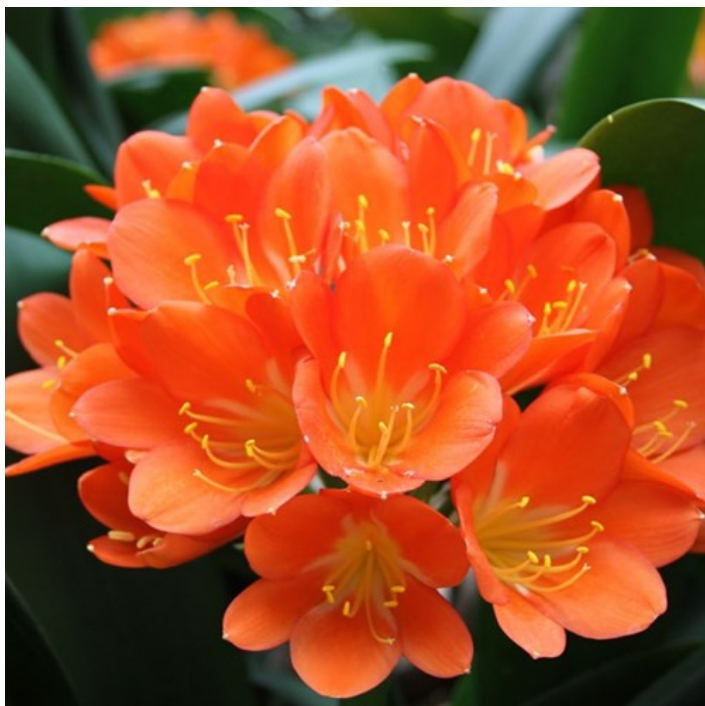
How to Grow Clivia

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Kate Karam | February 12, 2018

Right around this time of year, when you are getting a bit desperate for some plant action indoors, you are likely to see clivia at your garden center or home improvement store. Clivia (*Clivia miniata* a.k.a Kaffir lily) is an easy to grow houseplant with strappy leaves and tall stocks of flowers that burst into citrus-hued orange or yellow bloom in late winter. Evergreen, it grows from roots rather than a bulb like it's cousin, the amaryllis. It takes a bit of work to force your clivia into bloom, but once you get into the rhythm, it's really simple. Buy one now—it'll bloom in March or April and then follow the advice below to ensure blooms next year. You'll be so happy to show off this beauty.

Two We Recommend



Belgian Hybrid Orange Bush Lily (*Clivia miniata* 'Belgian Hybrid Orange')

Rounded clusters of up to 60 vivid orange flowers on tall stems make this an absolutely gorgeous accent, border plant or container specimen. Great plant for dry shade settings. Evergreen. Up to 30" tall and wide. Zone: 9 - 11

Belgian Hybrid Yellow Bush Lily (*Clivia miniata* 'Belgian Hybrid Yellow')

Rare bright-yellow flowered form with huge clusters of lemon-hued bloom on tall stalks that are perfect for cutting or just enjoy potted up or in the landscape. Glossy, strappy foliage adds interest year round. Up to 2 ft. tall and wide. Zone: 9 - 11

Tips and Tricks

- **Clivia's active growth period is during early spring to early fall.** During this period your plant will need lots of warmth, direct sunlight, water and slow release fertilizer like Osmocote or a liquid fertilizer at half-strength twice a month. The best conditions will be temps around 70 degrees—a warm, sunny, south-facing window is great until you can move it outside to enjoy the summer's heat and light.
- Along comes **late fall and early winter and it's sleepy time for your clivia.** Bring the plant back indoors into a cool room with temps around 50 degrees (basements are usually a good choice). Do not let the plant freeze. Reduce water to once a week.
- **In mid-January bring those clivias out of the dark** and into the light. It's time to get them blooming. Water well and once new growth with fresh leaves in the plant's center, feed weekly with soluble liquid fertilizer at one-fourth the strength you'll see listed on the label.
- **Your clivia will bloom in March or April** but when young, they can hold off blooming until mid-summer. If this happens, continue to follow the advice above so your plant gets the idea of what you want from it.
- **In summer, place potted plant dappled shade** (indirect light). Bring the plant into the house before the first frost. In very warm zones, these plants are used for landscaping.
- In warmest zone if planted outside, **tolerates dry shade once established.**
- **Divide every 3 years** after flowering in spring. **Prune in summer** after flowering.

So, that's about it. You gonna try a clivia this year? Tell me about it in comment section below.

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