

Epiphyllum genus of epiphytic



Epiphyllum is a genus of epiphytic plants in the cactus family, native to Central America and South America. Common names for these species include climbing cacti, orchid cacti and leaf cacti, though the latter also refers to the genus *Pereskia*.

Epiphyllum is a genus of tropical succulents often referred to as orchid cacti or climbing cacti. There are over a dozen species and many associated hybrids of varying shapes and sizes. They usually have long, flat, non-spiny, and trailing stems. With the right care, they showcase bright, large, fragrant, and night-blooming flowers in the spring or summer. In the wild, these mostly epiphytic plants grow on branches or trunks of trees rather than developing roots in the ground. They absorb the moisture

and nutrients they need from the humid environment around them.



In a garden landscape, the trailing stems of orchid cacti look good in hanging baskets. Despite their common name, they don't like full sun and dry air like normal cacti species. Epiphyllums do best in warm, humid, and shady spots that replicate their tropical forest natural habitat. This makes them a good choice as an easy-to-grow, slow-growing bathroom plant.

Common Name Orchid cacti, climbing cacti, leaf cactus

Botanical Name Epiphyllum Spp.

Family Cactaceae