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# HOYAS

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Hoyas are epiphytic plants from Asia, the Far East and parts of Australasia, where they are usually found in tropical rainforests. Some are quite common in cultivation, but most people are surprised to learn that there are several hundred recognised species and varieties.



*Hoya bella.*

Their wax-like flowers, often with a strong scent (most noticeable in the evenings) make them desirable as house or conservatory plants.

## Cultivation / Plantcare

With so many different species cultivation requirements vary, but as a general rule warm humid conditions will suit most of them.

Some small leaved species make ideal subjects for hanging baskets, others may be trained up poles or small trellises.

## *Watering*

Frequent waterings are necessary, but care must be taken to prevent the compost from becoming waterlogged. Regular mistings with tepid water on the leaves is also useful.

Tomato type fertiliser should be applied monthly during spring and summer. Alternatively a foliar feed may be applied when spraying.

## **Acknowledgement**

Please feel free to print, copy and distribute these cultivation notes. We do ask however that the **BCSS Teesside Branch** ([www.teessidecacti.org](http://www.teessidecacti.org)) is acknowledged as their source on any such copies.

## *Position*

A bright position, with some sunshine - east or west facing windows or conservatories are ideal.

## *Temperature*

For safety the minimum winter temperature for most of these plants should be around 12°C (55°F). Though some, such as *H. bella* and *H. carnosa*, will stand considerably lower temperatures.

In summer, they can withstand quite high temperatures, although adequate ventilation must be provided if temperatures become excessive.



*Hoya globulosa*

## *Compost*

A very open compost such as peat or bark with perlite or vermiculite and charcoal is preferred. Specialist orchid compost is ideal.

