

Green is Good, but Colorful is Better

Lush, colorful, and tropical foliage is the new trend in workplace greenery, says **Ambius**.

"Clients are seeking to establish a welcoming and restorative mood with their office plants this season," says Todd Ferguson, area managing director for Ambius. "Vibrant and colorful plants at the workplace imbue a more relaxed summer vibe that clients are craving this season."

The top five most requested workplace plants and plant varieties for the American marketplace currently include:

- 1. Pygmy Date Palm Tree.** This tree can grow up to 10 feet high and sports a slender trunk with bright green pinnate leaves that grow from the top of the trunk.
- 2. California Ivy/English Ivy.** These plants can be trained to climb up walls or live inside hanging baskets. They feature a medium-sized, deep green ivy leaf.
- 3. Orchids.** This plant family's many species feature showy and beautiful flowers that make an elegant statement in any workplace environment.
- 4. Kalanchoe.** There are more than 125 species in this plant class, featuring tropical, succulent flowering plants that add color and panache to office cubicles. Flowers form little clusters and come in a variety of shades of red, orange, yellow, and purple.
- 5. Aspidistra Elatior.** This Asian-native plant is commonly known as the "cast-iron plant" or "iron plant." It sports large, leathery leaves.

"It isn't necessary to fill every available space with a plant to achieve a curative interior landscape," explains Ferguson. "Often just a few good-quality specimens located where employees work or take their rest breaks can be sufficient. Being around plants certainly seems to reduce stress and engender a feeling of well-being in most people, a benefit that is even more acute if correct lighting is in place. The fact that a workplace has budgeted on something to make the environment more attractive may also be a contributing factor, by sending a signal to staff that management cares about its employees."

Coming in many varieties, orchids exhibit elegance in the workplace.

