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LAWN & GARDEN GUIDE

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## **African Violet Care**

Welcome to African violet (Saintpaulia) plant ownership. We have a few helpful tips to help you care for your violet.

## Lighting:

- African violets prefer bright, indirect light.
- Avoid direct sunlight and keep them at least a few feet away from bright south- or west-facing windows. An east- or north-facing window gives them the best lighting without the risk of burn-ing their sensitive foliage.
- Artificial plant lighting also works well.
- Turn pots regularly to keep flowers from reaching for the light.
- A minimum of 8 hours of light will help ensure maximum blooms.

## Watering:

- Water at the base and never splash the foliage with water; just a drop can cause foliar spots and damage.
- Water when the soil feels less moist to the touch. Never let growing African violets stand in water or completely dry out.
- Wick watering, from the bottom, is sometimes appropriate. After wick watering is complete, drain any excess water from the bottom of the pot.
- Room temperature water is preferred by violets.

## Fertilizing:

• To encourage blooms, we recommend a specialty food like **ferti**•**lome African Violet & Blooming Plant Food**. This concentrated food is mixed with water, so you can use it every time you water, or one to two times per month.



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