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## Caring for African Violets

### Light:

African Violets require 14-16 hours of light and 8-10 hours of darkness per day to flower. They prefer a bright, cool location such as a North window. If you cannot provide enough sunlight, fluorescent or LED grow lights may be used as a substitute or supplement.

### Temperature & Humidity:

Your African Violet prefers the same temperatures you do. Between 60 and 80 degrees is preferable with 70 degrees being ideal. African Violets will thrive with humidity between 40 and 60 percent. In dry times you can help your violets conserve humidity by grouping them together or setting them on pebbles and water, making sure that the plants are sitting on top of the pebbles and not in the water.

### Watering:

Proper watering is very important for an African Violet. It is important to keep the leaves dry and to use room temperature water. We recommend watering your African Violet from the bottom. Using a special African Violet pot allows this easily. If your African Violet is in a different pot make sure the pot has (a) drain hole(s) in the bottom. Set the pot in a bowl of room temperature water 1" deep. When the soil surface feels moist, remove the plant from the bowl of water and allow excess water to drain from the pot.

### Fertilizing:

African violets require a mild fertilizer each time they are watered. We recommend using a fertilizer specially formulated for African Violets. Add your fertilizer to the water and allow the plant to soak it up from the bottom. It is a good idea to flush your plant monthly with plain water to remove any excess fertilizer build-up.

