



# *How to Care for Your African Violets (Saintpaulia)*



African violets should grow well near a sunny window with **good diffused bright light**, but take care in south facing windows as the plants can scorch. Avoid excessively hot or cold areas.

**Violets bloom best when they are pot bound** so repot only when they really need it and move just one size up. African violets should be allowed to dry out between each watering for best results. If the top of the soil is dry to the touch, then it is time to water thoroughly.

**Watering too frequently will leave your plants susceptible to deadly pathogens and rot** and can also prevent plants from getting the nitrogen they need. Drain excess water in a saucer at the base of the pot to prevent root rot and protect furniture. Avoid using highly chlorinated water. Dispense water into a container and let stand overnight to allow the chlorine gas to escape. Cold water on foliage can cause spotting.

**Fertilize periodically** with African Violet plant food and follow the manufacturer's directions.

**KEY TIP FOR SUCCESS:** Provide good light to stimulate growth and flowering. Lack of flowering is normally caused by low light.