

Product Information

African violets are compact plants that have diminutive five-petaled blooms (single flowered) with tiny yellow centers. Semidouble varieties have more than five petals, and double-flowered varieties have 10 or more petals. Some cultivars have ruffled or fringed (wavy) petal edges.

Blooms rise on thin stems above a ro-settelike formation of leaves, which are typically round or oval but sometimes lance shaped; either green or variegated, sometimes with a reddish underside; fleshy (semisucculent); and velvet textured (hairy). The leaves also can have scalloped, ruffled, crinkled or serrated edges.

With proper care and ideal environmental conditions—steady warmth, careful watering, good light, high humidity and regular feeding—these plants can last for years and will bloom continually.



Care Tips

These plants require bright but indirect (filtered) sunlight. They will tolerate direct sunlight very early or very late in the day, but at all other times, they must be shielded from it. During winter months, African violets might need additional exposure to light. Keep in mind, however, that in order to rebloom, these plants need at least eight hours of darkness each day, so ensure they get no more than 16 hours of light per day.

Keep the soil lightly and evenly moist—but never soggy. Water plants when the soil surface is dry to the touch with room

temperature (never cold) water, and avoid using softened or highly chlorinated water. The best way to water these plants is by placing the pot in a tray of water and allowing the plant to absorb water for up to 30 minutes.

These plants prefer average room temperatures. Never expose them to temperatures below 60 F or above 80, even for short periods of time. They also require relatively even temperatures—no cold or hot drafts or sudden changes in temperature. High relative humidity—at least 50 percent to 60 percent—is essential.