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Basic African Violet Care

Soil:

There are bagged soils made specifically for African Violets, or you can purchase a soilless potting mix with good drainage characteristics. Typically these will contain peat moss, sand, vermiculite or perlite. African Violets like slightly acidic soil.

Water:

African violets can be watered from the soil surface as long as you avoid getting any water on the leaves, which tends to damage them. Or let the plant absorb water via the roots by placing the container in a water-filled saucer until the surface of the soil appears moist. After watering, remove excess water from the saucer. African Violets do not like to “keep their feet wet” – this tends to rot their roots.

Fertilizer:

Use an all-purpose balanced fertilizer (all three major nutrients are at the same concentration, like 10-10-10). Feed at strength recommended on label.

Light:

African Violets like bright light but not direct mid-day sunlight. An east or west-facing window works well for this.

Pruning:

Pruning is not normally necessary except to shape, if needed.