

African violet *Streptocarpus ionanthus*

Fact sheet



LIGHT ☀️ ☀️ ☀️ ☀️ ☀️ **bright, no midday sun**

Plenty of bright light, but no direct sun, especially in summer. In winter a sunnier window. Too little light means few or no flowers.



WATER 💧 💧 💧 💧 💧 **moderate**

Water with room-temperature water once the surface is dry – onto the soil or from below for half an hour. Keep the leaves dry. Rule of thumb: about once a week.



HUMIDITY 💧 💧 💧 💧 💧 **medium**

Dislikes dry air – stand it on a saucer of damp gravel. Don't mist, as that marks the leaves.



TEMPERATURE

18–24 °C by day, 16 °C at night, all year. No cold draughts or sudden changes.



SOIL

Light, free-draining houseplant or African violet compost. A small pot – usually about 10 cm at most.



FEEDING

Every 3–4 weeks in spring and summer with a dilute liquid feed – for houseplants or one for African violets.



REPOTTING 🪴 **est. 9 cm → 10.5 cm · shallow**

Every 2–3 years in spring, only slightly larger – too large or deep a pot can stop it flowering.



HEIGHT



**up to approx. 23 cm tall,
23 cm wide · rosette**

GROWTH



medium



TOXICITY



Humans: non-toxic



Cats: non-toxic



Dogs: non-toxic

	TOO LITTLE	TOO MUCH
Water	 Few or no flowers. → Water as soon as the surface is dry, with water at room temperature.	 Crown and roots rot. → Let the surface dry before watering, and never leave it standing in damp soil.
Light	 Thin, dark green leaves on long stalks; few or no flowers. → Move it somewhere brighter, but out of direct sun. In winter, a sunnier window.	 Scorched leaves. → Move it out of direct sun or behind a thin curtain.
Fertiliser	 Older, lower leaves turn yellow; it grows more slowly. → Feed every 3–4 weeks in spring and summer.	
Warmth	 Stunted after nights below about 16 °C; recovery can take long. → Keep it at 16 °C or more at night, away from cold draughts.	



WHAT IT DOES FOR YOU

Compact and cheerful: in good conditions it can flower for months on end, even all year round. Non-toxic for people, cats and dogs.



CAUTION

Non-toxic for people, cats and dogs. Larger amounts eaten can still cause stomach upset and nausea.