

# African violet

*Saintpaulia ionantha*

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This description is for **African violet** (*Saintpaulia ionantha*):

A tender evergreen perennial, *saintpaulia ionantha* is more suited to life indoors as a houseplant than outdoors, especially in temperate climates. Known best as the African violet, it has a low tolerance for cold and frost, but with lush, clump-growing foliage, it is an excellent choice for conservatories, greenhouses or other indoor areas. Its dark green leaves are thick, soft and very hairy, growing in dense rosettes. Its small, saucer-shaped, lightly scented flowers are an extraordinary violet colour, with a bright yellow centre. The African violet can rot if its foliage gets wet. Plant in loam-based compost and bright filtered light, and re-pot to allow fresh roots to develop.



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Plant	Environment	Usage
<b>Known dangers?</b> no	<b>Acidity</b> Acidic Neutral	<b>Standard category</b> Exotic, house plants & other House plants
<b>Height [m]</b> 0.1	<b>Hardiness zone</b> unknown	<b>Grown for</b> Attractive Flowers
<b>Spread [m]</b> 0.3	<b>Heat zone</b> H11-12	<b>Creative category</b> Fine fragrant For Beginners Colours For birds & bees

Plant	Environment	Usage
<b>Dominant flower colour</b> Blue	<b>Moisture</b> well-drained well-drained but frequently watered	<b>Garden type</b> Indoor or winter garden
<b>Flower Fragrance</b> Yes, let it smell	<b>Soil type</b> sandy loams	<b>Gardening expertise</b> beginner
<b>Flowering seasons</b> Mid winter Late winter Early spring Mid spring Late spring Early summer Mid summer Late summer Early autumn Mid autumn Late autumn Early winter	<b>Sun requirements</b> Partial shade	<b>Time to reach full size</b> 2 to 5 years
<b>Foliage in spring</b> Green	<b>Exposure</b> Sheltered	
<b>Foliage in summer</b> Green		
<b>Foliage in Autumn</b> Green		
<b>Foliage in winter</b> Green		
<b>Propagation methods</b> seed runners leaf cuttings		
<b>Growth habit</b> Rosette		