

Cultural Information – Viola
 (vy-OH-la)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, partial sun, or shade, a southern, eastern, western, or northern exposure. Grow as close to the window as possible. Some direct sunlight is beneficial.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 33°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring soil to a state of visual dryness between watering. When watering, thoroughly saturate soil until a little water runs out of the bottom of the pot. Growing in a clay pot will help maintain a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They are light feeders; ¼ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water twice a month when in active growth. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like a 7-9-5. Stop feeding during the winter or when growth has stopped.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Clump growers; can be maintained by pruning running stems.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Violas are highly susceptible to spider mites. If infested with insects in summertime, cut back all leaves except one to encourage side shoots and spray with Neem oil. Plant will re-grow within a few months.
<u>Comments</u>	Potted plants need cool nights between 30° and 40° to induce bloom and to keep them blooming. When night temperatures stay warm, violas will go out of bloom. Outside the odoratas are hardy perennials. Keep them weeded so they don't get overrun by nearby plants.