

# National Show Grooming Schedule 2017

Week		Instructions
<b>Now</b>		<p><b><u>What to do when you get Home.</u></b>            Select varieties of violets which might be good for show. Ideally you would be growing 3 plants for every 1 that you hope to exhibit.</p> <p>Repot, disbud and remove baby leaves from lowest row.</p> <p>Select a show-growing location (probably under florescent lights) so that you always keep an eye on them and care for them first. If possible, ensure blooms are true to its description before disbudding.</p> <p>Turn plants ¼ turn every week to ensure even growth.</p>
<b>21 Weeks</b>	January 5	<p>Within 1 week after repotting, wash foliage so plants can absorb light well. If you are unsure about washing, go to our website and view Sharon’s Leaf Washing Video. Set plant on counter and make sure it is completely dry before placing it back under the lights</p> <p>During the summer months, keep track of the temperature in your violet room (72-75 degrees.) If it runs warm, add a fan to run 24/7.</p> <p>Turn plants ¼ turn every week to ensure even growth.</p>
<b>20 Weeks</b>	January 12	<p><b><u>MINI’S AND SEMI-MINIS:</u></b>            Do a hard re-pot removing all but the 6 leaves in center of plant, cut away 1/3 of the root ball, set the plant deeper in pot and add soil to bury the exposed neck.</p> <p><b><u>FOR STANDARDS:</u></b>            Continue good maintenance, disbud, and remove suckers.            Turn plants ¼ turn every week to ensure even growth.            Groom off bottom row of leaves.            Keep fan running 24/7.</p>
<b>16 Weeks</b>	February 9	<p>Continue good maintenance, disbud, remove suckers, and turn plants ¼ turn every week to ensure even growth.</p> <p>Provide room to grow, make sure they are not crowded.</p>
<b>12 weeks</b>	March 9	<p><b><u>MINI’S AND SEMI-MINIS:</u></b>            Do a soft-break repotting (trying not to disturb too much of the root system, remove a little soil and replace with new soil. Also remove smaller and/or older outer leaves only).</p> <p><b><u>FOR STANDARDS:</u></b>            Do a hard repot (remove lower row of leaves, and 1/3 root ball) and pot-up to a larger pot if it is already 3 times the size of the pot it is in.            Example: If it is in 3” pot and the plant is 9”, it needs to go into a 4” pot.            Check for necks and pot up if necessary.            Lights should be on for 12 hours daily.            Continue maintenance, fan running, turning ¼ turn, check spacing.            Ensure variegated plants are on lower shelves because they are cooler and plants may lose some variegation if the room is warmer than 75.</p>
<b>11 Weeks</b>	March 16	<p>Continue maintenance (Keep plants disbudded, rotate ¼ turn, remove suckers.)</p> <p><b>Exceptions: Keep miniature and trailers partially disbudded (Never let your minis over bloom this early)</b></p> <p>Continue all basic maintenance (rotating, suckers, space, etc.)</p>

References Growing to Show by Pauline Bartholomew

Joyce Stork Show schedule on Facebook African Violet Showing for Beginners

<b>10 Weeks</b>	March 23	Last chance to evaluate collection for show plants (Symmetry, etc.) Continue maintenance, fan running, turning ¼ turn, watch for suckering, and provide good spacing. Groom off older leaves that are smaller than the largest outside leaves. Pay attention to room temperature (72-75 degrees) and keep fan running. As temperatures rise outside, you may want to move your variegated plants to a lower shelf where it is a little cooler, as heat always rises. Begin bloom boost fertilizer (example: 5-57-17, or 3-12-6)
<b>9 Weeks</b>	March 30	* <a href="#">Disbud heavy-double and variegated varieties with green-edged blooms for the last time.</a> Continue to disbud all other varieties. Continue bloom boost fertilizer. Increase lights by 1 hour to 13 hours Continue all basic maintenance (rotating, suckers, space, etc.)
<b>8 weeks</b>	April 6	Increase light time by one hour to 14 hours. <i>Disbud doubles and heavily variegated varieties FOR THE LAST TIME.</i> Check for suckers. Continue Bloom-booster fertilizer. Continue all basic maintenance (rotating, suckers, space, etc.)
<b>7 Weeks</b>	April 13	Increase light time by one hour to 15 hours. <i>Disbud semi-double stars for the last time.</i> Change to 12-36-14 or 7-9-5 fertilizer formula. Continue all basic maintenance (rotating, suckers, space, etc.)
<b>6 Weeks</b>	April 20	<i>Disbud semi-doubles for the LAST time.</i> Check for suckers. Wash foliage. Review foliage washing video, and then wash for the last time. Set plant on counter and make sure it is completely dry before placing back under the lights. Continue all basic maintenance (rotating, suckers, space, etc.)
<b>5 Weeks</b>	April 27	Check plants for bloom buds. Buds can be GENTLY manipulated towards center of plant. Check for suckers and keep debris off foliage with soft brush. Disbud <a href="#">singles</a> for the last time. Continue all basic maintenance (rotating, suckers, space, etc.)
<b>4 Weeks</b>	May 4	Check plants for buds. Buds can be GENTLY manipulated towards center of plant. Check for suckers and keep debris off foliage with soft brush. Continue all basic maintenance (rotating, suckers, space, etc.)
<b>3 Weeks</b>	May 11	Check plants for buds. Buds can be GENTLY manipulated towards center of plant. Check for suckers and keep debris off foliage with soft brush. Remove flowers that have opened. Continue all basic maintenance (rotating, suckers, space, etc.)
<b>2 Weeks</b>	May 18	Remove any spent blossoms, peduncles, and pedicel stubs. Continue all basic maintenance (rotating, suckers, space, etc.)
<b>1 weeks</b>	May 25	Remove any spent blossoms, peduncles, and pedicel stubs. Check for suckers. Brush away soil particles, etc. Pot down necks or pot up if necessary. Continue all basic maintenance (rotating, suckers, space, etc.)
<b>Day Before</b>	May 31	Groom plants one last time, removing any rings or supports, any spent blossoms, or leaves that distort symmetry, or any debris or dust, etc. and check again for suckers. “Slip Pot” – Place a small square of plastic wrap on the bottom of your plant pot, the set your plant into another pot that is the same size to prevent any water or debris from getting on show table. Begin packing up for show by supporting the flower stems from bouncing on the leaves by inserting wads of facial tissue or soft plastic underneath the stems. Place your plants in transporting boxes so that leaves are supported and protected, and drive carefully to the show. Once you arrive at the show, go to the entries section, and enter your exhibits.
<b>National show</b>	June 1st	Congratulations for sticking it out to the end. Now wait for the judges to do their jobs.