

Light Stands

A **plethora** of ideas

# Stands for Natural Light

- African Violets became the most popular indoor house plant because they do well in windows.
- They like a lot of light but not a lot of heat so the best windows are eastern windows. North and south facing windows are good to but you may need a sheer in the afternoon. Western facing windows generally just get too warm in the afternoon to be good for violets.
- Rule of thumb for window sill grown violets is the plants should not be further than 12" from the light source.







Here is a hanging glass shelf display.  
In front of a window



This is a simple bookshelf in front of a window with a standing light fixture to augment the light.



# Stands with Artificial Light

- African violets can be grown well in natural light but the best way to grow the beautiful show type plants is to use artificial light.
- There are professionally made light stands that can be purchased. IGS makes stands specifically for African Violets. The only drawback is price.
- Many light stands are home made
- If you are going to make your own stand rule of thumb is that the shelves for standard should be between 10" to 12" from the top of the plant to the light source. For minis the standard is 8" to 10"
- To keep the light consistent fixtures should be on a timer. T12 bulbs anywhere from 10-12 hours a day. T8 bulbs anywhere from 8-10 hours a day.

# Professional Light Stands



- Professional light stands have a lot in their favor
- The light fixtures have a wider separation of the bulb so that the distribution of light is more even
- The light bulbs used are high quality wide spectrum bulbs
- The displays come with removable perianth trays
- They do have plastic covers that can be purchased to cover the whole stand. This adds humidity in areas that are very low in humidity
- The draw back. They are very expensive!!

G4AP2T8 Stand Package with 4 two  
lamp PL42T8-S Lights

**\$664.00**

This Lite Cart package includes  
G4A plant stand  
and 4 2 lamp 48" 32 Watt T8 fixtures  
with 5000K lamps PL42T8-S

Dimensions: 74" H x 53" W x 23" D



G11A Compact Lite Cart  
Aluminum \$115.00

1 Fixture/Shelf

1 22" x 11" Tan Tray (GT2211)

Dimensions: 22" H x 27" L x  
12" D

**Two-lamp 20 Watt Fixtures  
included (GW220WS-S)**



Easiest setup  
A wire rack  
from Home  
Depot or  
Lowes and 48"  
florescent  
fixtures





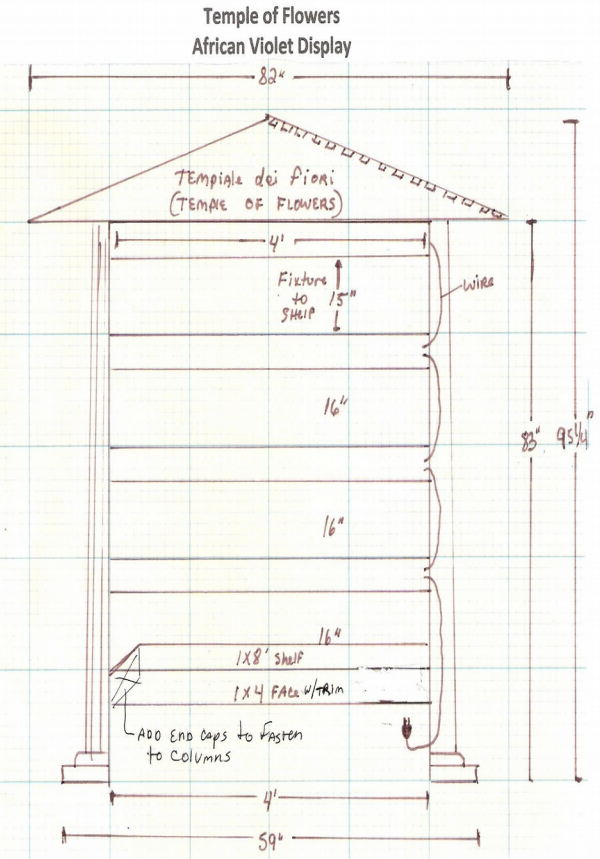


Nancy started out with the basics and added ice covers for florescent drop lighting and front covers using  $\frac{1}{4}$  plywood to cut the glair of the florescent lights. But she soon got more creative





# Nancy's Temple of Flowers and Diagram



1. Cut 8" round column in half lengthwise and cut to desired length.
2. Fill in cutout with 1x8 cut to fit. Prime, spackle, sand, caulk and paint.
3. Build shelves with 1x8 top and 1x4 front & back, with end caps. Add trim to front & back. Prime, spackle, sand & paint.
4. L-bracket to wall or window frame.
5. Fasten shelves to columns & drill holes for electric wires.
6. Install lighting fixtures and run wiring. (On this one I used 3' T-5 fixtures with one bulb).
7. Caulk all seams & touch up paint. (Wait several days for paint to have a good seal before loading with plants.



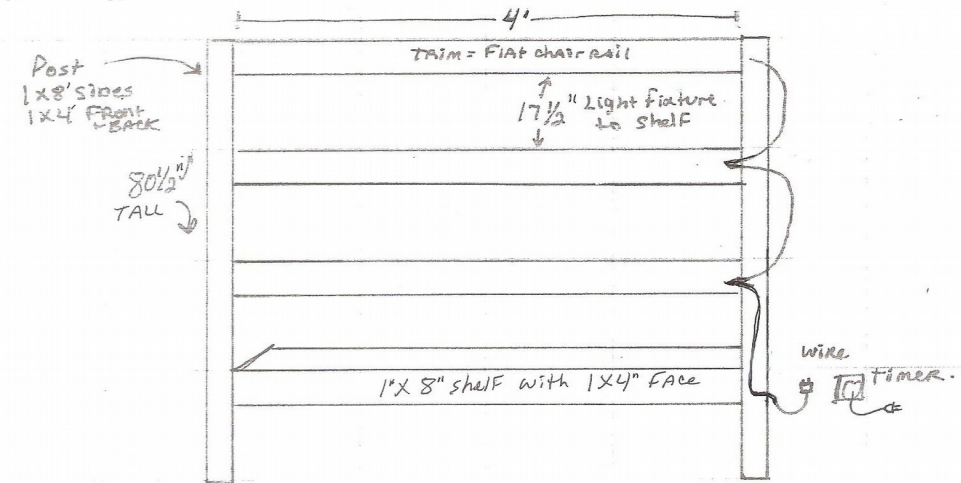


Nancy's Display with Temple of flowers and her metal stands





### Wooden African Violet Display Shelves



1. Assemble columns 1x4 front & back, 1x8 sides. Prime, sand caulk & paint.
2. Assemble shelves 1x8 top, 1x4 front & back, trim on front and back faces. Prime, sand, caulk & paint all.
3. Install 4' florescent fixtures into shelves. Do not install two T-8 bulbs yet.
4. Locate where shelves go on columns, drill holes for electric wires.
5. Fasten shelves to columns using ends of light fixture flange.
6. L-bracket unit to wall leaving 4" space for plant leaves to hang over.
7. Caulk all seams from shelves to columns. Let dry.
8. Finish all trim, caulk & paint.
9. Run electric wires to each fixture and to plug. Install bulbs, set up on timer.

Note: New bulbs have a higher output, adjust your timer accordingly.

Nancy wanted to make a display for her plants that was more decorative than the wire stands and she came up with this design.





Nancy's Final results!!



# Shirley's Displays

I bought my stands at yard sales and consignment shops. Cost \$29 - \$100. Items needed. Under counter, linkable, T-8 lights either 13" or 23". Purchased at Walmart, Cost \$10 for 13" and around \$15 for 12". Timers: Bought simple ones at Walmart - Cost \$7. You can buy

Click icon









From Bobbi,

Here are 2 of my cobbled up stands.

Both made from plastic shelf units at big box hardware stores.

Highlighted are reference to specific pics in the dropbox folder I just shared with you.

The shelves are usually too close, so I buy some kind of sturdy PVC and use as poles between shelves. They often do not fit the holes, so the pvc has to just rest on the top of each shelf , with the pole that came with the unit inside of it. I use a length of metal pipe (conduit) or something sturdy (1 x 2, or thick plant stake) to run down the center of the pvc to keep it from going off the edge of the shelf. Pics Slatted 4 , 5, 1 +Black 2, 3.

For the slatted shelf type

- 1) The Lights (4 ft) are easy to hang from these shelves because there are many gaps in the shelf.Pic Slatted 3
- 2) They hang out a bit from the unit, so you can put things on the side that do not need as much light...Leaf cuttings? Pic Slatted 4 again
- 3) However, the gaps allow for uneven footing for smaller reservoirs, also dirt , etc to fall thru to the next shelf. So I put something down to stop that. Here I had found foam board cheap at \$ tree. It is not quite large enuf, but close. I am sure something else could be found to cut to fit exactly. Pic slatted 2

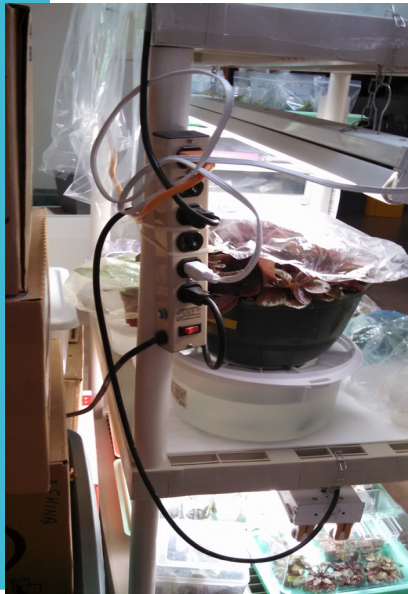
For my solid shelf one:

- a) Not as many options to hang from, so used soldering iron to make holes in the plastic.Pic Black 5, 6
- b) This shelf is only 3+ feet wide, so used some old 3 ft kitchen fixtures from our remodel . : ) Black 2 again
- c) Can use clip on LED (Lowes) #352725 or something similar (not sure this would be enuf for most plants, maybe leaves)

[http://www.lowes.com/pd\\_352725-47842-17783-003\\_0\\_?productId=3394398&Ntt=clip+on+light&pl=1&currentURL=%3](http://www.lowes.com/pd_352725-47842-17783-003_0_?productId=3394398&Ntt=clip+on+light&pl=1&currentURL=%3)

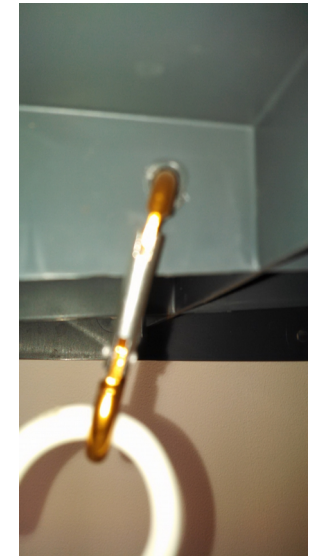
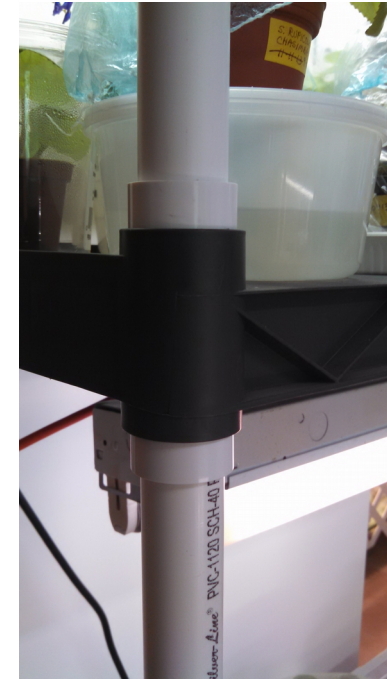
=

# Pictures of Bobbi's Slatted Shelf Display





# Pictures of Bobbi's Solid shelf display



Hello





# Other Displays





