

## Getting Streps Ready for Show

<p>4-5 Months Out (November-December)</p>	<p>Remove suckers from main plant if there are more than 4. Remove oldest, spent leaves that have already bloomed. Trim back outer leaves to promote new growth from center. Remove all bloom stalks. Re-pot your strep in the next larger size pot. Judge pot size by the size of the root ball. DO NOT WATER for a few days. Mist your plant instead or put plant under a dome for about a week. Keep your plant disbudded for a minimum of 9 weeks, maximum, 12 weeks. Streps will grow to their maximum leaf size quicker when the plant is disbudded. A larger leaf will produce more bloomstalks than a small leaf.</p>
<p>2 Months Out (First week of February)</p>	<p>If your plant is a vigorous grower &amp; either roots are coming from the bottom of the pot or your wick stops siphoning water, you may need to repot. This time, do not disturb the root ball other than loosening the roots at the bottom. Repot in the next size up (usually a 4" pot). Again, easy on the water &amp; mist your plant. Otherwise, your plant does not need repotting. You can begin to let the bloom stalks form. Check for new suckers, a few are ok. Remove the rest. If there are too many they may choke out the main crown. If using a light stand, make sure your lights are now on for 12 hours a day. Time will vary depending on what type of bulbs you are using. T12s need to be on longer than T8s &amp; T8s need to be on longer than T5s. Turn your plant weekly to ensure you will have bloomstalks all around.</p>
<p>1 Month Out (First week of March)</p>	<p>Check your plant for yellow leaves. Remove any new suckers and spent bloom as well as spent bloomstalks. Check for dirt &amp; pet hair on leaves.</p>
<p>Week Before Show</p>	<p>Remove any new suckers and spent blooms as well as spent bloomstalks. You can use cuticle scissors to trim the stalks from the leaf without leaving a stub behind. Trim brown leaf edges (follow the natural curve of the leaf) &amp; remove any yellowing leaves. Make sure your plant is dirt, pet hair &amp; bug free. Find a slip pot that will tightly fit over your pot. You will need to put it in a slip pot before entering it into the show.</p>

**\*Once a month run slightly warm tap water through the top of your plant to remove salt & fertilizer build up.**

**Note:** Streptocarpus are as individual as children, so one plant may respond significantly to disbudding while another may not. These instructions are intended as a general guide. You may need to adjust the time schedule depending on your plant's growth level and your home environment.